

Cheng XU^{Ph.D.}

School of Computing Science, Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6, Canada
✉ cheng_xu_3@sfu.ca
🏠 <https://xuc.me> · 🌐 xu-cheng · 🌐 xu-cheng

RESEARCH INTERESTS I am interested in Databases, Blockchain, 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 **Simon Fraser University** Burnaby, BC, Canada
Visiting Post-doctoral Research Fellow Mar 2020 – Present

- Advisor: Prof. Jian Pei
- Designed novel techniques to build future generation high-performance blockchain systems.
- Developed a blockchain prototype in rust (<https://git.io/slimchain>) to demonstrate the effectiveness of the novel design.

Hong Kong Baptist University Hong Kong
Ph.D. Candidate Nov 2014 – Feb 2019
Senior Research Assistant / Post-doctoral Research Fellow Dec 2018 – Present

- Advisor: Prof. Jianliang Xu
- 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 blockchain databases.
- Resulted to several research papers published in top-tier journals and conferences.

Syracuse University Syracuse, NY, USA
Visiting Scholar 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 | <https://brew.sh> Hong Kong
Core Maintainer Feb 2015 – Feb 2017

- 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.

EDUCATION **Hong Kong Baptist University** Hong Kong
Ph.D. in Computer Science Nov 2014 – May 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, Javascript
Tools Vim, Tmux, Git, macOS, Linux
Languages English, Mandarin

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Complete List: Google Scholar [DKG_JaAAAAAJ] · DBLP [Xu_0004:Cheng]

1. C. Zhang[†], C. Xu[†], H. Wang, J. Xu, and B. Choi, "Authenticated keyword search in scalable hybrid-storage blockchains," in *Proceedings of the 37th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE '21)*, Chania, Crete, Greece, Apr. 2021, [Full Paper](#).
2. K. Li, Y. Tang, J. Chen, Z. Yuan, C. Xu, and J. Xu, "Cost-effective data feeds to blockchains via workload-adaptive data replication," in *Proceedings of the 21st International Middleware Conference (Middleware '20)*, Delft, Netherlands, Dec. 2020, pp. 371–385, [Full Paper](#).
3. H. Wang, C. Xu, C. Zhang, and J. Xu, "vChain: A blockchain system ensuring query integrity," in *Proceedings of the 2020 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD '20)*, Portland, OR, USA, Jun. 2020, pp. 2693–2696, [Demo Paper](#).
4. S. Guo, Y. Ji, C. Zhang, C. Xu, and J. Xu, "vCBIR: A verifiable search engine for content-based image retrieval," in *Proceedings of the 36th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE '20)*, Dallas, TX, USA, Apr. 2020, pp. 1730–1733, [Demo Paper](#).
5. 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, pp. 141–158, [Full Paper](#).
6. 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](#).
7. 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](#).
8. 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](#).
9. 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](#).
10. 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](#).
11. 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](#).
12. 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](#).

[†]These authors contributed equally.

TALKS

1. Blockchain Privacy Preserving Techniques, *The 36th CCF National Database Conference*, Jinan, China, Oct. 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
- Department RPg Performance Award, Hong Kong Baptist University 2018, 2019
- Postgraduate Research Symposium Best Research Performance Award & Best Poster Award, Hong Kong Baptist University 2018
- Yakun Scholarship Scheme for Mainland Postgraduate Students, Hong Kong Baptist University 2018
- Excellent Teaching Assistant Performance Award, Hong Kong Baptist University 2017
- Teaching Assistant Performance Award, Hong Kong Baptist University 2015, 2016