

Yonghao Zou

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RESEARCH INTEREST

Program Analysis, Verification, Network Protocols, Operating Systems, Distributed Systems, Robotics, File System

EDUCATION

PKU (Advisor: Prof. Diyu Zhou)	Sep. 2025-Now
Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science	
Research Topics: Program Verification, File Systems, Operating Systems	
EPFL (Advisor: Prof. George Candea)	Sep. 2023-Nov. 2024
Research Topics: Program Verification, Software Interfaces, Operating Systems	
Honor & Award: EDIC Fellowship	
Tsinghua University (Advisor: Prof. Shi-Min Hu & Jia-Ju Bai)	Sep. 2019-Jun. 2022
M.E. in Computer Technology	
Main Courses: Computer System Performance Measurement, Advanced Operating Systems	
Honor & Award: Outstanding Graduate, Tsinghua University	
Zhejiang University	Sep. 2011-Jun. 2015
B.E. in Computer Science and Technology	

PUBLICATION

- [1] **Yong-Hao Zou**, Jia-Ju Bai, Jielong Zhou, Jianfeng Tan, Chenggang Qin, Shi-Min Hu. TCP-Fuzz: Detecting Memory and Semantic Bugs in TCP Stacks with Fuzzing. USENIX ATC, 2021.
- [2] **Yong-Hao Zou**, Jia-Ju Bai. Effective Crash Recovery of Robot Software Programs in ROS. ICRA, 2021.
- [3] Kai-Tao Xie, Jia-Ju Bai, **Yong-Hao Zou**, Yu-Ping Wang. ROZZ: Property-based Fuzzing for Robotic Programs in ROS. ICRA, 2022.
- [4] Can Cebeci, **Yonghao Zou**, Diyu Zhou, George Candea, Clément Pit-Claudel. Practical Verification of System-Software Components Written in Standard C. SOSP, 2024.
- [5] **Yonghao Zou**, Jia-Ju Bai, Zu-Ming Jiang, Ming Zhao, Diyu Zhou. Blackbox Fuzzing of Distributed Systems with Multi-Dimensional Inputs and Symmetry-Based Feedback Pruning. NDSS, 2025.
- [6] Junyang Zhang, Xiangcan Xu, **Yonghao Zou**, Zhe Tang, Xinyi Wan, Kang Hu, Siyuan Wang, Wenbo Xu, Di Wang, Hao Chen, Hongliang Tian, Lin Huang, Shoumeng Yan, Yuval Tamir, Yingwei Luo, Xiaolin Wang, Huashan Yu, Zhenlin Wang, and Diyu Zhou. CortenMM: Efficient Memory Management with Strong Correctness Guarantee. SOSP, 2025. *Best paper award*.

EXPERIENCE & RESEARCH

Work Experience: Software backend engineer	in Shanghai, China
Software architecture group member in China Merchants Bank	Jul. 2015-Apr. 2018
1. Develop a microservice framework, including configuration management systems, RPC framework, service management and discovery, and code generation tools.	
2. Develop a message system for scale and availability, providing critical functions including at least once message delivery, high availability servers, server load balance, and manual message management.	
Research Project: Research on Robot Operation System (ROS) reliability	in Beijing, China
Project core member	Sep. 2019-Mar. 2020, May. 2021-Jul. 2021
1. Develop a new lightweight recovery tool named RORY with checkpoint and message replay to recover ROS nodes effectively. RORY can recover six standard ROS programs in both virtual and realistic environments. (ICRA 20)	
2. Develop a ROS fuzzing tool named ROZZ with three essential techniques, including a multi-dimensional generation method, a distributed branch coverage, and a temporal mutation strategy, to test ROS nodes effectively. ROZZ has successfully found 43 actual bugs on ten standard robotic programs in ROS 2. (ICRA 22)	

Research Project: Research on reliability and correctness testing of TCP Stacks	in Beijing, China
<i>Project core member</i>	Apr. 2020-Feb. 2021
1. Develop a novel fuzzing framework, TCP-Fuzz, to effectively test TCP stacks and detect bugs using three essential techniques: a dependency-based generation strategy, a transition-guided fuzzing approach, and a differential checker. (ATC 21)	
2. TCP-Fuzz is adapted to 5 TCP stacks and finds 56 bugs.	
Research Project: Research on reliability and correctness testing of distributed systems	in Beijing, China
<i>Project leader</i>	Mar. 2021-Sep. 2024
1. Propose a coverage-guided fuzzing approach using fault injection and different checkers to test distributed systems.	
2. Develop a novel fuzzing framework that has found dozens of bugs in distributed systems. The framework can also find bugs in distributed relational databases after further extension. (NDSS 25)	
Research Project: Research on a verification tool for systems and specifications written in C	in Lausanne, Switzerland
<i>Project core member</i>	Sep. 2023-Nov. 2024
1. Propose the use of a parallel CI pipeline to verify systems in parallel to improve the efficiency of verification.	
2. Verify the correctness of Komodo written in C with the tool.	
Research Project: Research on a verification of single level memory system	in Beijing, China
<i>Project core member</i>	Dec. 2024-Sep. 2025
3. Propose the verification structure to verify the single level memory system CortenMM.	
4. Verify the functional correctness of memory operations in CortenMM.	

SKILLS

- System programming, including Linux driver development, scheduling, networking, distributed systems, and ROS
- Dynamic analysis based on LLVM
- Symbolic execution and verification tools including Klee, TPOT and Verus
- Programming language: Java, C/C++, Rust, Python, SQL and Clojure