CONTACT Information Computer Science Department

Boston University

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RESEARCH INTERESTS Databases, Data Management and Data systems.

EDUCATION Ph.D. in Computer Science,

2019 - Present

Boston University, Massachusetts, USA.

MPhil in Computer Science,

2017 - 2019

the University of Hong Kong (HKU).

Thesis: "Effective and Efficient Discovery of Top-k Meta Path in Heterogeneous Information Networks"

B.Sc. in Software Engineering,

2013 - 2017

Tsinghua University.

Professional Experience PhD Researcher at Boston University
Sept 2019 - Present
Software Engineering Intern at Google Core
Software Engineering Intern at Google Cloud
Software Engineering Intern at RocksDB, Meta
Research Intern at DASLab SEAS, Harvard
System Engineer Intern at Weibo Corporation
Sept 2019 - Present
May 2024 - July 2024
June 2023 - Sept 2023
July 2018 - Oct 2018
July 2017 - Aug 2017

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND AWARD

- 2023/2024 BU CS Research Excellence Award
- Committee member in CIKM 2024
- ACM SIGMOD Student Travel Award 2022, 2024
- VLDB Student Travel Award 2023
- ACM SIGMOD Availability Committee 2021
- Online student volunteer in VLDB 2020
- Committee member in ICTAI 2021
- Student volunteer in BDAI Workshop, HKU, 2019
- External reviewer of WISE2020, ER2019, CIKM2018, DASFAA2018, DASFAA2022, DASFAA2023, CIKM2023, ICDE2024

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- 1. Ran Wei\*, **Zichen Zhu\***, Andrew Kryczka, Jay Zhuang, Manos Athanassoulis. (\* Equal Contribution). *Benchmarking, Analyzing, and Optimizing WA of Partial Compaction in RocksDB*, EDBT, 2025
- 2. **Zichen Zhu**, Arpita Saha, Subhadeep Sarkar, Manos Athanassoulis. *KVBench:* A Key-Value Benchmarking Suite, DBTest, 2024
- 3. **Zichen Zhu**, Xiao Hu, Manos Athanassoulis. *NOCAP: Near-Optimal Correlation-Aware Partitioning Joins*, SIGMOD, 2024
- 4. **Zichen Zhu**. SHaMBa: Reducing Bloom Filter Overhead in LSM Trees, PhD Workshop in VLDB, 2023

- 5. Subhadeep Sarkar, Tarikul Islam Papon, **Zichen Zhu**, Dimitris Staratzis, Manos Athanassoulis. *Enabling Timely and Persistent Deletion in LSM-Engines*, ACM Transactions on Database Systems (TODS), 2023
- 6. Siqiang Luo\*, **Zichen Zhu\***, Xiaokui Xiao, Yin Yang, Chunbo Li, Ben Kao. (\* Equal Contribution). *Multi-Task Processing in Vertex-Centric Graph Systems: Evaluations and Insights*, EDBT, 2023
- 7. Ju Hyoung Mun, **Zichen Zhu**, Aneesh Raman, Manos Athanassoulis. *LSM-Tree Under (Memory) Pressure*, Proceedings of the International Workshop on Accelerating Data Management Systems Using Modern Processor and Storage Architectures (ADMS), 2022
- 8. Manos Athanassoulis, Subhadeep Sarkar, Tarikul Islam Papon, **Zichen Zhu**, Dimitris Staratzis. *Building Deletion-Compliant Data Systems*, IEEE Data Engineering Bulletin (DEBull), 2022
- 9. Subhadeep Sarkar, Dimitris Staratzis, **Zichen Zhu**, Manos Athanassoulis. *Constructing and Analyzing the LSM Compaction Design Space*, In Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment, Vol. 14(11), 2021.
- Zichen Zhu, Ju Hyoung Mun, Aneesh Raman, Manos Athanassoulis. Reducing Bloom Filter CPU Overhead in LSM-Trees on Modern Storage Devices, In Proceedings of the International Workshop on Data Management on New Hardware (DaMoN), 2021.
- Zichen Zhu, Tsz Nam Chan, Reynold Cheng, Loc Do, Zhipeng Huang, Hoaci Zhang. Effective and Efficient Discovery of Top-k Meta Paths in Heterogeneous Information Networks, In IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering, doi: 10.1109/TKDE.2020.3037218.
- 12. Stratos Idreos, Niv Dayan, Wilson Qin, Mali Akmanalp, Sophie Hilgard, Andrew Ross, James Lennon, Varun Jain, Harshita Gupta, David Li, Zichen Zhu. Design Continuums and the Path Toward Self-Designing Key-Value Stores that Know and Learn, Conference on Innovative Data Systems Research (CIDR), 2019.
- 13. **Zichen Zhu**, Reynold Cheng, Loc Do, Zhipeng Huang, Hoaci Zhang. *Evaluating Top-k Meta Path Queries on Large Heterogeneous Information Networks*, In Proceedings of the International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM), 2018.

Demos

- Zichen Zhu, Subhadeep Sarkar, Manos Athanassoulis. Acheron: Persisting Tombstones in LSM Engines, In Proceedings of the ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data, Demonstration track, 2023
- Subhadeep Sarkar, Kaijie Chen, Zichen Zhu, Manos Athanassoulis. Compactionary: A Dictionary for LSM compactions, In Proceedings of the ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data, Demonstration track, 2022
- 3. **Zichen Zhu**, Siqiang Luo, Xiaokui Xiao, Yin Yang, Dingheng Mo, Yufei Han. *VC-Tune: Tuning and Exploring Distributed Vertex-Centric Graph Systems*, IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE), Demonstration Track, 2022.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

#### Boston University (Teaching Fellow)

2019 - Present

• CS 561 (Data Systems Architectures)

Spring 2022, 2023, 2024

• CS 660 (Graduate Introduction to Database Systems)

 $Fall\ 2020,\ 2021,\ 2023$ 

• CS 460 (Introduction to Database Systems)

Spring 2021

 $\bullet$  CS 237 (Probability in Computing)

Spring 2020

• CS 105 (Introduction to Databases and Data Mining)

Fall 2019

## University of Hong Kong

2017 - 2019

• CCST9047 (The Age of Big Data) Spring 2018

• CCST9047 (The Age of Big Data)

Spring 2019

# MPHIL THESIS

Zichen Zhu. Effective and Efficient Discovery of Top-k Meta Path in Heterogeneous Information Networks, MPhil Thesis, 2019, Department of Computer Science, University of Hong Kong. (under the supervision of Dr. Reynold Cheng)

I worked on effective and efficient discovery of top-k meta paths under the supervision of Dr. Reynold Cheng, Professor, Department of Computer Science, the University of Hong Kong. In this work, I observe that the shortest meta path between two nodes cannot identify the most representative relation and I propose a ranking function that seamlessly integrates existing ranking functions into a multi-step searching framework and I combine bidirectional searching with this framework to further boost the searching efficiency.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming Languages: C, C++, Java, Python, JavaScript
- Markup Languages: HTML, XML, LATEX
- Database Management Systems: RocksDB, MongoDB, MySQL, PostgreSQL
- Web Development: Django, Flask, CodeIgniter

LAST UPDATE: Oct 2024