Chenghao Lyu

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Ph.D. in Computer Science

Research Interests

My research interests lie in big data analytics systems, machine learning, and multi-objective optimization, focusing on (1) adaptive query execution and optimization, (2) query performance modeling via deep neural network, (3) automatic system configuration recommendations via efficient cost-performance optimization. My designed optimizers have demonstrated their advancements in Apache Spark and AliCloud.

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts

Amherst, MA

Ph.D., Computer Science, GPA: 3.94/4.00

01/2025

Advisors: Professor Yanlei Diao and Professor Prashant Shenoy

Thesis: "Intelligent Cost-Performance Optimization for Big Data Analytics Systems"

Fudan University

Shanghai, China

M.S., Computer Science

06/2018

Advisor: X. Sean Wang, entrance exams waived

B.S., Electronic Engineering Rank: 10/100, pre-admitted

06/2015

Professional Experience

Ecole Polytechnique Scientific Collaborator

Paris, France

09/2021 - 03/2024

- Proposed the first adaptive query execution optimizer (learning-based) for Spark SQL.
 - Reduced latency and cloud cost by up-to 60% and 20%, with an overhead of 0.7-0.8s on TPC benchmarks.
 - Achieve latency prediction error down to 13.1% by integrating with weighted ensemble learning (AutoGluon).
 - Designed an adaptive parameter tuning (recommendation) framework to a running query in Spark by recompiling Spark and using the intermediate runtime statistics during execution.
 - Broadcast with an oral presentation, a poster and an open-source release at VLDB'24, influencing over 20 research teams and diverse industry groups including Databricks, Microsoft, AWS, Alibaba, etc.

Alibaba DAMO Academy

Research Intern

Remote & Hangzhou, China

02/2020 - 09/2021

- Integrated an intelligent resource optimizer to Alibaba's default scheduler Fuxi.
 - Reduced latency by 36-37% and cloud cost by 37-75% across three production workloads in Alibaba.
 - Built predictive models at the data partition level, achieving 9-19% weighted mean absolute percentage error.
 - Designed polynomial-time algorithms for task-machine placement and resource packing problems (NP-hard).
 - Gave oral and poster presentations at VLDB'22, exchanging ideas with over 100 attendees.

University of Massachusetts

Amherst, MA

Research Assistant

01/2019 - 08/2021, 03/2024 - Present

- Developing uncertain-aware robust models to enhance the effectiveness of cloud optimizers. (ongoing)
- Improved and completed UDAO, a unified data analytics optimizer proposed by our team.
 - Achieved a 50x speedup by contributing a multi-objective gradient-based solver (accepted in ICDE'21).
 - Contributed a triplet-based loss function to reduce the latency estimation error rate from 35% to 20%.
 - End-to-end pipeline design for automatic data collection, feature engineering, model training and online serving.
 - Led the release of UDAO library on PyPi as the first contributor of a team of five.
 - Demonstrated UDAO at VLDB'19 and IP Paris'21, guiding over 100 attendees through the project.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Chenghao Lyu, Qi Fan, Philippe Guyard, Yanlei Diao: A Spark Optimizer for Adaptive, Fine-Grained Parameter Tuning. (PVLDB 2024) 🚨 🗗 🖟
- [2] Chenghao Lyu, Qi Fan, Fei Song, Arnab Sinha, Yanlei Diao, Wei Chen, Li Ma, Yihui Feng, Yaliang Li, Kai Zeng, Jingren Zhou: Fine-Grained Modeling and Optimization for Intelligent Resource Management in Big Data Processing. (PVLDB 2022) 🖾 🔁
- [3] Fei Song*, Khaled Zaouk, **Chenghao Lyu***, Arnab Sinha, Qi Fan, Yanlei Diao, Prashant Shenoy. Spark-based Cloud Data Analytics using Multi-Objective Optimization. (ICDE 2021) 🖺 🗗 🖟
- [4] Khaled Zaouk, Fei Song, **Chenghao Lyu**, Arnab Sinha, Yanlei Diao, Prashant J. Shenoy. UDAO: A Next-Generation Unified Data Analytics Optimizer. (PVLDB 2019, demo)

SELECTED AWARDS

- Dr. Phil Bernstein Graduate Scholarship in Computer Science (Spring 2025)
- Dissertation Writing Fellowship at UMass Amherst (Fall 2024)
- Tung OOCL Scholarship, 3x Outstanding student at Fudan University
- Pre-admission for B.S. and entrance examination waived for M.S. at Fudan University
- 4× Champion in Fudan Basketball Cup, First Prize in China C9-league Dragon Boat Competition (2015)

SKILLS

- Programming: Proficient with Python; Comfortable with Scala, Java, Cpp; Beginning Rust.
- Mentoring: TA at UMass Amherst, guiding a class of 50+ MS students to build a knob-tuner.
- Misc: Apache Spark, PyTorch, Jupyter Notebook, Latex, etc.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & OUTREACH

- Reviewer: TC 2024, VLDB 2026; External Reviewer: KDD 2022; Volunteer: VLDB 2020
- Apache Spark Contributor: Pull Request #48649

GRADUATE COURSEWORK (Data and Machine Learning Related)

• Systems for Data Science, with Prof. Peter F. Klemperer, Teaching Assistant	Spring 2024
• Algorithms for Data Science, with Prof. Andrew McGregor, Teaching Assistant	Spring 2023
• Database Design & Implementation, with Prof. Yanlei Diao, Teaching Assistant	Fall 2019
• Advanced Algorithms, with Prof. Ramesh Sitaraman (A)	Spring 2021
• Optimization in Computer Science, with Prof. Madalina Fiterau (A)	Spring 2021
• Reinforcement Learning, with Prof. Philip S. Thomas (A)	Fall 2020
• Distributed Machine Learning & Data Mining, with Prof. Peter J. Haas & Don Towsley (A)	Spring 2020
• Machine Learning, with Prof. Benjamin Marlin (A-)	Fall 2019
• Distributed & Operating Systems, with Prof. Prashant Shenoy (A)	Spring 2019
• Neural Networks: A Modern Introduction, with Prof. Erik Learned-Miller (A)	Fall 2018
• Database Design & Implementation, with Prof. Gerome Miklau (A)	Fall 2018

REFERENCES

- Yanlei Diao (Professor, Ecole Polytechnique)
- Prashant Shenoy (Professor, UMass Amherst)
- Peter Haas (Professor, UMass Amherst)
- X. Sean Wang (Professor, Fudan University)

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