

Ali Raza

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OVERVIEW

Interests:

AI/ML System Level Optimizations, HPC, Linux, Virtualization, Operating Systems, Low-level Debugging, Computer Networks, Cloud Computing, Distributed Systems, Performance Analysis and Application Tuning

Skills:

Linux Kernel Programming and Debugging, Systems and Network Programming, C, Python, Bash

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Engineer, HPC System Architecture

Mar. 2023 – Present

Samsung Semiconductor Inc., USA

- Explored optimizations to Linux and MPI libraries to improve performance of traditional HPC and new AI/ML workloads
- Identified and analyzed sources of noise in a Linux based system and devised measures to reduce that noise
- Authored patent related to a new threading model to offload computation to accelerators

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Computer Science

Sep. 2017 - Mar. 2023

Boston University

Boston, MA

Advisor: Prof. Orran Krieger

Unikernel Linux (UKL):

- Research on a novel Linux-based unikernel for cloud environments focusing on performance and security
- Incorporated performance-enhancing techniques like zero-copy networking, run-to-completion scheduling, etc., into Linux while maintaining its general-purpose versatility
- Implemented Unikernel Linux (UKL) and shared the patch with Linux community as an RFC
- Achieved over 10% improvement in 99th tail latency and throughput for unmodified Redis and Memcached. Further optimizations with minimal application modifications resulted in improvements exceeding 20%

Elastic Secure Datacenter:

- Enabled secure and efficient multiplexing of physical servers among multiple tenants using a hardware root of trust and a separate verification service, reducing the need for trust in the provider

M.S. Computer Science

Sep. 2014 - Jun. 2016

Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)

Lahore, Pakistan

- Thesis involved context based Wi-Fi bitrate adaptation to improve throughput in mobile devices
- Designed a system that detects indoor and outdoor environments using sensors present in mobile devices, to switch between bitrate adaptation protocols

B.S. Electrical Engineering

Sep. 2008 - Jun. 2012

Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)

Lahore, Pakistan

- ML based final year project to reconstruct 3 dimensional models of buildings from a single satellite image

PUBLICATIONS

- **Unikernel Linux (UKL)** - EuroSys 2023, Rome, Italy
- **Unikernels: The Next Stage of Linux's Dominance** - HotOS 2019, Bertinoro, Italy
- **Using SGX-Based Virtual Clones for IoT Security** - IEEE NCA 2018, Boston, MA
- **A Secure Cloud with Minimal Provider Trust** - HotCloud 2018, Boston, MA
- **It's All in the Name: Why Some URLs are More Vulnerable to Typosquatting** - IEEE INFOCOM 2018, Honolulu, Hawaii
- **An Anomaly Detection Fabric for Clouds Based on Collaborative VM Communities** - CCGrid 2017, Madrid, Spain