Bilge Acun

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Affiliation

Jan 2019 - Present	Research Scientist, Facebook, CA, USA AI Infrastructure Foundation, Supervisor: Kim Hazelwood Working on scalable and efficient software and hardware platforms for distributed machine learning applications, i.e. from computer vision to personalization, with PyTorch and Caffe2 on large-scale heterogeneous data-centers.

Research Interests

Parallel and Distributed Computing, Systems for Machine Learning, Energy Efficient Computing, High Performance Computing (HPC), Smart Runtime Systems

Education

2012-2017	Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA Department of Computer Science Thesis: "Mitigating Variability in HPC Systems and Applications for Performance and Power Efficiency" Advisor: Prof. Laxmikant V. Kalé
2008-2012	B.S., Bilkent University, Turkey Department of Computer Science Salutatorian, second highest GPA among graduating class
Spring 2011	Erasmus Exchange Program, Uppsala University, Sweden Department of Computer Science

Honors, Awards, Fellowships

2018	**ACM SigHPC Dissertation Award Honoroble Mention**
2018	Selected as a Heidelberg Laureate Heidelberg Laureate Forum brings together Turing Laureates with early career researchers.
2017	Selected as a Rising Star in EECS, Stanford University
2017	Kenichi Miura Award, UIUC This award honors a graduate student for excellence in High Performance Computing.
2017	Illinois Innovation Prize Finalist, Technology Entrepreneur Center, UIUC The prize is awarded on to the most innovative students on campus annually (with a $2500 prize for finalists).
2016	Cover featured article on IEEE Computer magazine October issue This publication is the flagship magazine of IEEE Computer Society.
2012-13	Saburo Muroga Endowed Fellowship, UIUC
2012	Salutatorian, second highest GPA among graduating class, Bilkent University

Grants and Scholarships

2017	Google Grace Hopper Celebration Travel Grant, Google This travel and registration grant is for attending the largest women in computing conference.
2016	AWARE (Accelerating Women And underRepresented Entrepreneurs) Grant Winner, UIUC Research Park A $2500 grant to develop a prototype for innovative ideas.
2013	Grace Hopper Celebration Travel Grant, Department of Computer Science, UIUC
2011	Erasmus Exchange Program Scholarship, Uppsala University, Sweden
2008-12	Bachelor of Science Full Tution-Waiver with Stipend Merit Scholarship, Bilkent University

Publications

⋆ 282 citations ⋆ 1 book chapter ⋆ 2 journal papers ⋆ 8 conference papers ⋆ 3 workshop papers

Book Chapter:

1. **B. Acun**, R. Buch, , L.V. Kalé, J. C. Phillips. "NAMD: Scalable Molecular Dynamics Based on the Charm++ Parallel Runtime System" chapter in *Exascale Scientific Applications: Scalability and Performance Portability.* CRC Press. 2017.

Journals:

2. **B. Acun**, D.J. Hardy, L.V. Kalé, K. Li, J.C. Phillips, J.E. Stone. "Scalable molecular dynamics with NAMD on the Summit system". *IBM Journal of Research and Development.* 2018.
3. **B. Acun**, A. Langer, H. Menon, O. Sarood, E. Totoni, and L. V. Kalé. "Power, Reliability, Performance: One System to Rule Them All". *IEEE Computer, Energy Efficient Computing Special Issue (COMPUTER).* 2016.

Conferences:

4. **B.Acun**, K. Chandrasekar, and L. V. Kale "Fine-Grained Energy Efficiency Using Per-Core DVFS with an Adaptive Runtime System" *International Green and Sustainable Computing Conference (IGSC).* 2019.
5. **B. Acun**, A Buyuktosunoglu, E. K. Lee, Y. Park "Power-Aware Heterogeneous Node Assembly" *IEEE International Symposium on High-Performance Computer Architecture (HPCA).* 2019.
6. **B. Acun**, E. K. Lee, Y. Park, L. V. Kalé. "Support for Power Efficient Proactive Cooling Mechanisms". *International Conference on High Performance Computing (HiPC).* 2017.
7. **B. Acun**, P. Miller, L. V. Kalé. "Variation Among Processors Under Turbo Boost in HPC Systems". *International Conference on Supercomputing (ICS).* 2016.
8. A. Gupta, **B. Acun**, O. Sarood, L. V. Kalé. "Towards Realizing the Potential of Malleable Jobs". *International Conference on High Performance Computing (HiPC).* 2014.
9. **B. Acun**, A. Gupta, N. Jain, A. Langer, H. Menon, E. Mikida, X. Ni, M. Robson, Y. Sun, E. Totoni, L. Wesolowski, L. V. Kalé. "Parallel Programming with Migratable Objects: Charm++ in Practice." *Supercomputing (SC).* 2014.
10. H. Menon, **B. Acun**, SG De Gonzalo, O. Sarood, L. V. Kalé. "Thermal-Aware Automated Load Balancing for HPC Applications." *IEEE International Conference on Cluster Computing (CLUSTER).* 2013.
11. **B. Acun**, A. Başpınar, E. Oğuz, M.İ. Saraç, F. Can. "Topic Tracking Using Chronological Term Ranking". *International Symposium on Computer and Information Sciences (ISCIS).* 2013.

Workshops:

12. **B. Acun**, E. K. Lee, Y. Park, L. V. Kalé. "Neural Network-Based Task Scheduling with Preemptive Fan Control". *International Workshop on Energy Efficient Supercomputing (E2SC, SC).* 2016.
13. **B. Acun**, L. V. Kalé. "Mitigating Processor Variation with Dynamic Load Balancing". *IEEE International Workshop on Variability in Parallel and Distributed Systems (VarSys, IPDPS).* 2016.
14. **B. Acun**, N. Jain, A. Bhatele, L. V. Kalé. "TraceR: A Parallel Trace Replay Tool for Studying Interconnection Networks". *Workshop on Parallel and Distributed Agent-Based Simulations (PADABS, EUROPAR).* 2015.

Patents

1. E. K. Lee, **B. Acun**, Yoonho Park, Paul W. Coteus. "Learning-based Thermal Estimation in Multicore Architectures". *US Patent Application No: 16/116,289* (Pending patent). 2018.
2. E. K. Lee, **B. Acun**, Yoonho Park, Alessandro Morari, Alper Buyuktosunoglu. "Variation-Aware Intra-Node Power Shifting Among Different Hardware Components" *US Patent Application No: 16/127,958* (Pending patent). 2018.
3. **B. Acun**, E. K. Lee, Y. Park. "Multi-Component Power-Aware Job Scheduling Based on Node and Application Characteristics". *US Patent Application No: 15/827,208* (Pending patent). 2017.
4. **B. Acun**, E. K. Lee, Y. Park. "Power Efficiency Aware Node Component Assembly". *US Patent Application No: 15/658,494 (Pending Patent).* 2017.
5. **B. Acun**, E. Candan. "Systems and Methods for Computer Input". *US Patent Application No: 15/252,163. (Pending patent).* 2016.

Work Experience

2017 - 2019	Research Staff Member at IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, NY, USA Data Centric Systems Group - Distributed application performance optimization on world's most powerful supercomputer: Summit - Performance analysis and projection for next generation cloud and cognitive platforms - Cognitive runtime systems and data center schedulers
August 2012 - August 2017	Research Assistant at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA Parallel Programming Laboratory - Contributed to an open source C++ based paralllel programming framework, Charm++ - Made Charm++ energy and power efficient, thermal and variation aware - Worked on network optimizations, load balancing, malleability for large scale supercomputing systems - Optimized the performance of the award-winning petascale biomolecular simulation application NAMD
June 2016 - December 2016	Research Intern at IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, NY, USA Data Centric Systems Group - Implemented a neural network-based learning model for predicting core temperatures - Using the model, implemented runtime based proactive cooling methods, task scheduling techniques - Reduced the maximum cooling power of server nodes used in large-scale systems by 50% - Lead inventor on 2 patents #3,4, published papers #5,12
June 2014 - August 2014	Research Intern at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, CA, USA Computation Division - Developed a new parallel network simulator to simulate the performance of production HPC applications - Simulated different large-scale network topologies to obtain better communication performance at scale - Resulted in Publication #14.
August 2013 - December 2013	Teaching Assistant at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA *CS 598 - Parallel Programming with Migratable Objects* - Helped teach a graduate level special topics course on Charm++, an adaptive and parallel runtime system which can be used to program multicore desktops, clusters, as well as petascale supercomputers - Prepared and graded class assignments, exams and projects

Undergraduate Work Experience

Summer 2011	Software Engineering Intern, Microsoft, Turkey
Summer 2011	Software Engineering Intern, TUBITAK UEKAE, Turkey (National Research Council of Turkey)
Summer 2010	Software Engineering Intern, Middle East Technical University, Modsimmer, Turkey

Invited Talks and Other Presentations

- "Mitigating Variability in HPC Systems and Applications for Performance and Power Efficiency." *Doctoral Showcase Presentation, PhD Forum, Supercomputing Conference (SC).* 2017.
- "Neural Network-Based Power Optimizations in Runtime." *15th Annual Charm++ Workshop and Applications.* 2017.
- "Innovation Showcase: Illinois Innovation Prize Finalist". *Entrepreneurship Forum, UIUC.* 2017.
- "An Assistive Computer Interaction Technology for People with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome or Chronic Ergonomic Problems". *Chittenden Symposium on Assistive Technologies in Health, UIUC.* 2017.
- "Thermal-Aware Task Scheduling with Neural Network Based Modeling." *Summer Intern Poster Symposium at IBM T.J. Watson Research Center.* 2016.
- "Parallel Programming with Migratable Objects: Charm++." *IBM T.J. Watson Research Center.* 2016.
- "Processor Variation in Large Scale Supercomputers." *14th Annual Charm++ Workshop and Applications.* 2016.
- "TraceR: A Parallel Scalable Network Simulator." *13th Annual Charm++ Workshop and Applications.* 2015.
- "Malleable Jobs: Shrink and Expand with Charm++." *13th Annual Charm++ Workshop and Applications.* 2015.
- "Charm++ Hands-on Tutorial." *Argonne Training Program on Extreme-Scale Computing, ATPESC.* 2015.
- "TraceR: A Parallel Trace Replay Tool for HPC Network Simulations." *CODES Workshop, Argonne National Laboratory.* 2015.
- "Scalable Trace-driven Parallel Network Simulation." *LLNL Summer Intern Poster Symposium.* 2014.

Professional Activities

Organizational Activities

- Technical Program Committee Member, Systems Track, *IEEE International Conference on Computer Design (ICCD)*. 2019.
- Program Committee Member at the Women in High Performance Computing Workshop (WHPC at SC). 2018.
- Workshop Organizer, "'Ethics in Computing" at *Heidelberg Forum*. 2018.
- Conference Co-organizer, WeSTEM (Women Empowered in STEM) Conference by Society of Women Engineers (SWE). 2014.

Peer-Reviews

- Reviewer, Systems for Machine Learning Research Proposals, *Facebook*. 2019.
- External Reviewer, *IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing (TCC)*. 2019.
- External Reviewer, *Latin America High Performance Computing Conference (CARLA)*. 2019.

Other Activities

- Technical Session Chair, "Data Centers" & "Energy Efficiency and Measurements" sessions at the *International Green and Sustainable Computing Conference (IGSC)*. 2019.
- Panel Speaker, "Introduction to HPC Research - HPC Experiences for Undergraduates" at *Supercomputing (SC)*. 2018.
- Technical Session Chair, "Interfaces Session", at *15th Annual Charm++ Workshop and Applications.* 2017.
- Technical Session Chair, "Applications Session", at *14th Annual Charm++ Workshop and Applications.* 2016.
- Charm++ Hands-on Tutorial, at *Argonne Training Program on Extreme-Scale Computing, ATPESC.* 2015.
- Graduate Student Mentor for incoming PhDs, *Department of Computer Science at UIUC*. 2013-2015.

Professional Affiliations

Computer Research Association (CRA), Graduate Women Cohort	Alumni and Member
Graduate Society of Women Engineers (GradSWE) at UIUC	Digital Media Coordinator (2013-15)
Turkish Student Association (TSA) at UIUC	Board Member (2014-17)
Women in High Performance Computing (WHPC)	Member
Women in Computer Science (WCS) at UIUC	Member
Society of Women Engineers (SWE)	Member
Systers, Anita Borg Institute	Member
ACM, IEEE	Member

Programming Skills

C/C++, Python, Unix Shell, Java, R, Assembly, Arduino, LaTex, HTML, SQL

Parallel & Distributed Programming: *Charm++*, MPI, OpenMP, Pthreads, Spark

Machine Learning: PyTorch, Caffe2