



HPI Research Symposium 2021 - Master Day Welcome & An Intro to Successful Systems Research

Prof. Tilmann Rabl Data Engineering Systems

Hasso-Plattner-Institut



The Hasso Plattner Institute in Potsdam, Germany











HPI Research Symposium 2021 – Welcome!

Agenda

- Monday
 - 13:00 16:00 Master Day



We are here!

- Tuesday
 - 9:15 12:30 Future SOC Lab and Data Lab Day
- Wednesday
 - 9:00 12:00 Doctoral Symposium
- Thursday
 - 15:00-18:00 Symposium with Industry & Academia
- Friday
 - 9:00-12:00 Symposium with Industry & Academia

Also a very nice program!



HPI Research Symposium - Master Day

- Master projects
 - Mandatory semester projects
- Master theses
 - Final, researchy 6 month project
- Other projects
 Seminar results are of publishable quality
- First steps into research
 - Some of this work is on par with PhD level research





Today's Agenda I

Time	Title & Speakers
13:00 - 13:30	Tilmann Rabl - Successful Systems Research
13:30 - 13:45	Julian Hugo, Spoorthi Kashyap, Nataniel Müller & Justus Zeinert (Master Project Renard): <i>Improving Network Integration Algorithms for Drug Predictions</i>
13:45 - 14:00	Finn Klessascheck, Tom Lichtenstein & Simon Siegert (Master Project Weske): <i>Process Mining in Personalized Medicine</i>
14:00 - 14:15	Henrik Wenck: A Bayesian Analysis of the Effectiveness of Non- Pharmaceutical COVID19 Interventions
14:15 - 14:30	Oliver Adameck, Lukas Fritzsche & Jonas Noack (Master Project Baudisch): Super Fast Fabrication of 3D Models by Folding Laser-Cut Foam Core
14:30 - 15:00	Break



Today's Agenda II

Time	Title & Speakers
14:30 - 15:00	Break
15:00 - 15:15	Lars Jonas Bollmeier & Björn Daase: Maximizing Persistent Memory Bandwidth Utilization for OLAP Workloads
15:15 - 15:30	Christian Flach: Call Graphs for Live Programming - Implementing Call Tracing in Babylonian/S based on a Survey of Property Extraction Techniques for Dynamic Analysis
15:30 - 15:45	Nicolas Klodt, Lars Seifert & Arthur Zahn (Master Project Friedrich): A Color-blind 3-Approximation for Chromatic Correlation Clustering and Improved Heuristics
15:45 - 16:00	Tobias Bredow, Jona Otholt & Emanuel Metzenthin (Master Project Naumann): Multimodal Analysis for Cultural Data



Please engage!

- Time for Q&A after every presentation
 - Unmute and ask
 - Type questions in chat
- Reach out to the presenters if you want to know more



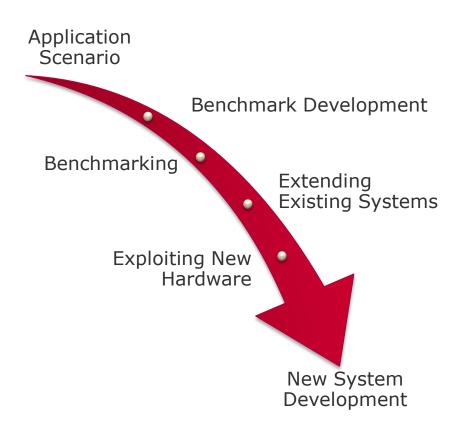
Successful Systems Research





- Database Systems (on Modern Hardware)
 - ULDBJ 18, SIGMOD 20, ICDE 21, PVLDB 21
- Stream Processing
 - PVLDB 19, SIGMOD 20, PVLDB 20, TODS 21
- Machine Learning Systems
 - PVLDB 17, SOCC 18, EDBT 19, SIGMOD 20
- Benchmarking
 - ICDE 18, TPCTC 19, PVLDB 20, SIGMOD 21

Research Approach



How to Start Successful Research?



- Look for an idea or a solution
 - E.g., combine recent buzz words
 - Blockchain, AI, green computing, IoT
- Problem: But why?



- Start with a problem or a question!
 - Current or future
 - There are problems everywhere
 - Often similar to ideas but with a concrete, *measurable* goal







What is a Good (System) Research Question

Relevant

- Advances research
- Safes lives, the environment, ...
- Makes money
- Brings pleasure

Measurable

- You can track if you are making progress / when you are done
- Comparable to other solutions
- Science, not magic (i.e., I know how it works)
- If you like some research, try making it ...
 - faster, more accurate, incremental, more efficient, ...
 - simpler





- With great power comes great responsibility
- Not everything is a tool
 - True for systems, algorithms, data
- Everybody in/on the pipeline needs to be responsible, careful, and thoughtful
 - Mistakes, misuse, manipulation
- Examples
 - Scoring / rating
 - Targeting
 - Optimization goal















- On our way to find out if there is gold in a far away mountain
- We need to cross a jungle full of obstacles
- How should we go about it?
 - Construct a road and bring mining equipment!
 - 2. Take our whip and walk through the jungle!



What is Gold?

- In general could be anything of value
 - Publication, fame, startups, money, fun, ...
 - Relevancy
- For academics: publications
- What can be published (in a good conference)?
 - In my field: something that is measurably better than previous work
 - Better ...
 - Performance, accuracy, functionality, utility, usability, ...



How to get good (enough) performance?

- Understand your application
 - Back of the envelope calculation
 - Estimate your system performance within an order of magnitude

A.k.a., B.S.-filter – filter out stupid ideas early

BotEC from Jeff Dean Google system guru



Von Scan:de:Benutzer:Superbass - eigener Scan, Gemeinfrei, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5205050

Understanding System Performance



- Modeling
 - Back of the envelope calculation
 - Analytical model
- Measurement
 - Experimental design
 - Benchmarks
- Simulation
 - Emulation
 - Trace-driven

Rule of Validation:

- Do not trust result of a single technique but validate with another
- Often: validate measurements with model

DESPITE OUR GREAT RESEARCH
RESULTS, SOME HAVE QUESTIONED
OUR AI-BASED METHODOLOGY.
BUT WE TRAINED A CLASSIFIER
ON A COLLECTION OF GOOD AND
BAD METHODOLOGY SECTIONS,
AND IT SAYS OURS IS FINE.

Source: https://xkcd.com/2451/



What to do with your Research?

- Publish!
 - Paper journal / conference
 - Website
 - Presentation
 - Open-source repo
- Without some form of publication your work is lost
- The better the publication the better the visibility
 - Better venue, but also better writing!





Summary

- Successful (System) Research
 - Solution to a problem
 - Relevant
 - Measurable
- Verify, justify assumptions
 - Back of the envelope calculation
 - Rule of validation
- Publish your results or they are lost
- Join the research school! ②

Thank you!

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