

James Larkby-Lahet

EDUCATION:	M.S. Computer Engineering	Santa Clara University	Graduated w/ Distinction	Apr. 2014 – Mar. 2015
	Computer Engineering	UC Santa Cruz	Ph.D. program	Jan. – Sept. 2012
	Computer Science	University of Pittsburgh	Ph.D. program	Jan. 2006 – July 2011
	B.S. Computer Engineering	University of Pittsburgh	Graduated	Dec. 2005

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Staff Software Engineer

July 2017 – March 2020

Poly, formerly Plantronics
Santa Cruz, CA

I helped design an embedded ARM+Linux Bluetooth communication accessory, following it through the full lifecycle from conception to shipment, maintenance and cost-reduction. I had primary responsibility for the Bluetooth control path, audio routing, firmware update file transfers and integration, andv both the Yocto build process and the build server.

Platform Engineer

April 2015 – May 2017

Formation Data Systems
Fremont, Ca

I contributed to cross-component designs, from consistency, to garbage collection, to stats. I worked with a small team to implement logical migration for the metadata storage component. I took ownership of the data path for that component and, after defining tests, rewrote significant portions to add new APIs, improve bookkeeping, and enhance performance.

Member Technical Staff / Software Engineer

January 2008 – July 2008

NetApp
Pittsburgh, Pa

Programmer and Test Engineer

May – December 2002

Union Switch and Signal
Pittsburgh, Pa

Programmer

June – August 2001

Nanjing University of Chemical Technology
Nanjing, China

Programmer

July 1999 – August 2000

Atlas Software Technologies, Inc
Pittsburgh, Pa

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Graduate Researcher

April 2014 – March 2015

Computer Engineering Dept., Santa Clara University
Santa Clara, Ca

I worked on a reliability scheme for streaming media and emerging storage technologies such as shingled write disks. I also worked on extending the XOMB OS single address-space memory model to distributed systems.

Graduate Researcher

January 2012 – Sept 2012

Computer Engineering Dept., UC Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, Ca

I worked on a userspace NIC driver for Lockbox, a mechanism to secure programs against an untrusted kernel.

Graduate Researcher

August 2007 – August 2009, Dec 2010 – July 2011

Computer Science Dept., University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa

I was the principal developer in our storage group of an innovative storage reliability scheme. I also contributed to an ongoing project on distributed storage. I developed algorithms for adaptive caching and prefetching, using machine learning to meet multiple user-defined goals such as improved performance and lower power usage.

Research Intern

May 2007 – August 2007

Storage-Server Integration, IBM Corp.
San Jose, Ca

I investigated practical limits on cache performance and developed a scan-resistant cache algorithm, improving on existing IBM intellectual property and was eventually awarded two patents.

Research Intern

May 2006 – August 2006

Interfaces & Architecture Dept, Seagate Technology
Pittsburgh, Pa

I investigated the interplay of various filesystems, I/O schedulers, I/O queuing and disk performance parameters. Since I/O path optimization strategies may conflict, a holistic approach was needed. I collected I/O request traces under a variety of workloads, and analyzed throughput, average response time and the amount of data requested.

Undergraduate Researcher

January 2003 – December 2005

Computer Science Dept., University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa

I designed power-aware prediction algorithms for I/O workloads.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

June 2004 – July 2005

PERCS Project, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center
Pittsburgh, Pa

Undergraduate Researcher

November 2000 – June 2001

Chemistry Department, University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa

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LANGUAGES: Bash, C, C++, D, Haskell, Java, Perl, Python, R, Rust, SQL, x86 Assembly, Zig

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Part Time Instructor

August 2011 – December 2011

Computer Science Dept., University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa

I taught the Advanced Systems Software class, with a focus on the XOmB operating system.

Teaching Assistant

August 2005 – May 2007, August 2009 – May 2010

Computer Science Dept., University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa

For the undergraduate OS course, I taught recitations and graded assignments. For the Advanced Systems Software course, I helped students to design and complete group research term projects. I have also taught recitations and graded for Intro to Systems Software (C and UNIX) and Discrete Math, and graded the graduate OS course.

PATENTS:

James Larkby-Lahet, Prashant Pandey. Stable adaptive replacement cache processing. US 8612689. Granted Dec 17, 2013.

James Larkby-Lahet, Prashant Pandey. Method for improving frequency-based caching algorithms by maintaining a stable history of evicted items. US 8250306. Granted Aug 21, 2012.

CONFERENCE TALKS:

James Larkby-Lahet, “Persistent Virtual Memory in the Great New Operating System In the Sky”. *Systems We Love*. San Francisco, 2016. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8d77KV_gI

CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

Ahmed Amer, Jehan-François, Thomas Schwarz, Vincent Ciotola, James Larkby-Lahet, “Outshining Mirrors: MTTDL of Fixed-Order SSPiRAL Layouts,” *Proceedings of the International Workshop on Storage Network Architecture and Parallel I/Os (SNAPI’07)*. San Diego, CA: September 2007.

Alma Riska, James Larkby-Lahet, Erik Riedel. “Evaluating Optimization through the IO Path”. *Proceedings of the USENIX Annual Technical Conference*. Santa Clara, June 2007.

James Larkby-Lahet, Ganesh Santhanakrishnan, Ahmed Amer and Panos Chrysanthis. “STEP: Self-Tuning Energy-safe Predictors”. *Proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Mobile Data Management (MDM’05)*, Aya Napa, Cyprus: ACM, May 2005.

WORKSHOP PAPERS:

James Larkby-Lahet, Brian Madden, Dave Wilkinson, Daniel Mosse. “XOmB: an Exokernel for Modern 64-bit, Multicore Hardware” *WSO - VII Workshop de Sistemas Operacionais*. Belo Horizonte, Brasil. July 2010.

POSTERS:

James Larkby-Lahet, Brian Madden, Dave Wilkinson, Daniel Mosse, Ahmed Amer. “OS Fundamentalism: Using XOmB for fundamental OS Research” *23rd SOSP*. Cascais, Portugal. October, 2011.

Vincent Ciotola, James Larkby-Lahet, Ahmed Amer.. “SSPiRAL Layouts: Practical Extreme Reliability”. *USENIX Annual Technical Conference Poster Session*. Santa Clara, June 2007.

OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS:

I led a group developing a 64-bit OS in the D language, XOmB. Our design is loosely based on the original exo-kernel papers. In addition to producing a novel research system, it has also been our objective to introduce undergraduates to research, systems programming and large-scale software development.

AWARDS:

Graduate Academic Excellence in Engineering Award. Santa Clara University (2015).

Inducted into HKN honor society (2004)

Clapp Endowment Scholarship and University Scholarship (2000–2004), Freeman Asia Scholarship (2001)

PERTINENT COURSES: Advanced Leadership, Distributed OS, Power-Aware Algorithms, High Performance Computing, Implementing VLSI CAD, VLSI 1&2, Wireless Networks, 3 terms of Mandarin, Pitt in China 2001.

SERVICE: Reviewer: IWSSPS 2009, Transactions on Design Automation of Electronic Systems, ICDCS 2006, ICAC 2006