Chris Fallin

https://cfallin.org/ <chris@cfallin.org>

Education

Carnegie Mellon University

Aug 2009 – Jul 2013, Jun 2015 – Feb 2019 Ph.D. Electrical & Computer Engineering
Thesis: Finding and Exploiting Parallelism with
Data-Structure-Aware Static and Dynamic Analysis

Advisors: Profs. Todd C. Mowry and Phillip B. Gibbons

Carnegie Mellon University

Aug 2009 – Dec 2011

M.S. Electrical & Computer Engineering

GPA: 4.000

University of Notre Dame

Aug 2006 – May 2009

B.S. Computer Engineering, summa cum laude

GPA: 3.924

Full-Time Work Experience

Fastly (San Francisco, CA)

Principal Software Engineer Staff Software Engineer Apr 2022 – present Oct 2020 – Mar 2022

- Tech lead for the Cranelift compiler open-source project as part of the WebAssembly team for the Compute@Edge product, driving overall compiler quality. Rewrote compiler backend to improve compile-time and runtime performance significantly: built new register allocator, instruction selector DSL and metacompiler, and new mid-end optimization framework based on novel application of e-graphs. Mentored and onboarded contributors. Guided multi-organization collaborations and grew compiler to approximately 5 fulltime contributors, 4 supported ISAs, and comparable performance to peer JIT compilers (and average within 10% of LLVM with much faster compilation).
- Focused on **correctness techniques**: proof-carrying code for sandboxing primitives, symbolic checker for register allocator, formal verification for compiler backend including an academic collaboration, rigorous fuzzing.
- Contributed to **Wasmtime runtime**: used virtual-memory techniques and lazy initialization to achieve single-microsecond instantiation times (400x improvement). Built lightweight compiler-based cooperative async scheduling.
- Ported **SpiderMonkey JS engine** to WebAssembly, enabling Fastly's JavaScript support. Added new interpreter tier yielding 1.5-2x speedups. Working to improve JS performance with ahead-of-time compilation techniques.

Mozilla (Mountain View, CA) Senior Compiler Engineer

Aug 2019 - Oct 2020

- Advanced the **Cranelift JIT compiler** backend to provide production-grade WebAssembly support in **Firefox on aarch64 (ARM64)**, including developing a new aarch64 backend with a small team. Analyzed and carefully optimized to generate code that is competitive with other JITs.
- Worked on the **SpiderMonkey JavaScript JIT engine**.

Google (Mountain View, CA) Software Engineer

Apr 2014 – May 2015

- Analyzed and enhanced performance of Protocol Buffers, a data serialization/marshalling framework used extensively
 in server-side infrastructure, by improving generated code and runtime library.
- Co-developed and led the release of **custom memory allocation (arena) support** for Protocol Buffers, saving significant CPU resources in production.
- Developed **Protocol Buffers bindings** as native-code plugins for Ruby and Node.js, and adapted a pure-JavaScript implementation for external release.

Intel (Hillsboro, OR)

Silicon Architecture Engineer

Aug 2013 – Apr 2014

- Worked on the core microarchitecture team for a **future-generation Atom core**.
- Defined **branch predictors** and related logic; worked with cycle-accurate simulator and estimated power and area.
- Worked with RTL engineers to specify implementation details and hand off documentation.

Conference Publications

- Alexa VanHattum, Monica Pardeshi, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Adrian Sampson, Fraser Brown. "Lightweight, Modular Verification for WebAssembly-to-Native Instruction Selection." In ASPLOS 2024, San Diego, CA, April 2024.
- Shravan Narayan, Tal Garfinkel, Mohammadkazem Taram, Joey Rudek, Daniel Moghimi, Evan Johnson, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Michael LeMay, Ravi Sahita, Dean Tullsen, Deian Stefan. "Going beyond the Limits of SFI: Flexible and Secure Hardware-Assisted In-Process Isolation with HFI." In *ASPLOS 2023*, Vancouver, BC, Canada, March 2023.
- Chris Fallin. "Safe, Flexible Aliasing with Deferred Borrows." In ECOOP 2020, Virtual Conference, Nov 2020.
- <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Chris Wilkerson, Onur Mutlu. "The Heterogeneous Block Architecture." In ICCD 2014, Seoul, South Korea, Oct 2014.
- Rachata Ausavarungnirun, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Xiangyao Yu, Kevin Chang, Greg Nazario, Reetuparna Das, Gabriel Loh, Onur Mutlu. "Design and Evaluation of Hierarchical Rings with Deflection Routing." In SBAC-PAD 2014, Paris, France, Oct 2014.
- Yoongu Kim, Ross Daly, Jeremie Kim, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Ji Hye Lee, Donghyuk Lee, Chris Wilkerson, Konrad Lai, Onur Mutlu. "Flipping Bits in Memory Without Accessing Them: An Experimental Study of DRAM Disturbance Errors." In *ISCA-41*, Minneapolis, MN, Jun 2014.
- Vivek Seshadri, Yoongu Kim, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Donghyuk Lee, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Gennady Pekhimenko, Yixin Luo, Onur Mutlu, Michael A. Kozuch, Phillip B. Gibbons, Todd C. Mowry. "RowClone: Fast and Energy-Efficient In-DRAM Bulk Data Copy and Initialization." In *MICRO-46*, Davis, CA, Dec 2013.
- Kevin Chang, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Onur Mutlu. "HAT: Heterogeneous Adaptive Throttling for On-Chip Networks." In *SBAC-PAD 2012*, New York, NY, Oct. 2012.
- George Nychis, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Thomas Moscibroda, Onur Mutlu, Srinivasan Seshan. "On-Chip Networks from a Networking Perspective: Congestion and Scalability in Many-core Interconnects." In *ACM SIGCOMM 2012 (SIGCOMM)*, Helsinki, Finland, Aug. 2012.
- Chris Fallin, Greg Nazario, Xiangyao Yu, Kevin Chang, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Onur Mutlu. "MinBD: Minimally-Buffered Deflection Routing for Energy-Efficient Interconnect." In 6th ACM/IEEE International Symposium on Networks-on-Chip (NOCS), Lyngby, Denmark, May 2012. One of five papers nominated for Best Paper award.
- Eiman Ebrahimi, Rustam Miftakhutdinov, Chris Fallin, Chang Joo Lee, Onur Mutlu, Yale Patt. "Parallel Application Memory Scheduling." In 44th Annual IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO), Porto Alegre, Brazil, Dec. 2011.
- Howard David, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Eugene Gorbatov, Ulf R. Hanebutte, Onur Mutlu. "Memory Power Management via Dynamic Voltage/Frequency Scaling." In 8th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Autonomic Computing (ICAC), Karlsruhe, Germany, Jun. 2011.
- Chris Fallin, Chris Craik, Onur Mutlu. "CHIPPER: A Low-complexity Bufferless Deflection Router." In 17th International IEEE Symposium on High Performance Computer Architecture (HPCA), San Antonio, TX, Feb. 2011.
- George Nychis, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Thomas Moscibroda, Onur Mutlu. "Next-Generation On-Chip Networks: What Kind of Congestion Control Do We Need?" In *Ninth ACM Workshop on Hot Topics in Networks (HotNETS)*, Monterey, CA, Oct. 2010.

Book Chapters

• <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Greg Nazario, Xiangyao Yu, Kevin Chang, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Onur Mutlu. "Bufferless and Minimally-Buffered Deflection Routing" (book chapter). In *Routing Algorithms in Networks on-Chip*, pp. 241—275, Springer, 2014.

Technical Reports

- <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Chris Wilkerson, Onur Mutlu. "The Heterogeneous Block Architecture." SAFARI Technical Report No. 2014-001. March 13, 2014.
- <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Xiangyao Yu, Kevin Chang, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Greg Nazario, Reetuparna Das, Onur Mutlu. "HiRD: A Low-Complexity, Energy-Efficient Hierarchical Ring Interconnect." SAFARI Technical Report No. 2012-004: December 13, 2012.
- <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Greg Nazario, Xiangyao Yu, Kevin Chang, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Onur Mutlu. "MinBD: A Minimally-Buffered Deflection Router Approaching Conventional Buffered-Router Performance." SAFARI Technical Report No. 2011-008: September 13, 2011.
- <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Xiangyao Yu, Greg Nazario, Onur Mutlu. "A High-Performance Hierarchical Ring On-Chip Interconnect with Low-Cost Routers." SAFARI Technical Report No. 2011-007: September 6, 2011.
- Kevin Chang, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Onur Mutlu. "Adaptive Cluster Throttling: Improving High-Load Performance in Bufferless On-Chip Networks." SAFARI Technical Report No. 2011-006: September 6, 2011.
- George Nychis, <u>Chris Fallin</u>, Thomas Moscibroda, Srinivasan Seshan, Onur Mutlu. "Congestion Control for Scalability in Bufferless On-Chip Networks." SAFARI Technical Report No. 2011-003: July 20, 2011.
- Chris Fallin, Chris Craik, Onur Mutlu. "CHIPPER: A Low-complexity Bufferless Deflection Router." SAFARI Technical Report No. 2010-001: December 29, 2010. (Extended version of our HPCA-17 conference paper.)

Research Talks

- "ægraphs: Acyclic E-graphs for Efficient Optimization in a Production Compiler." Invited keynote at EGRAPHS 2023 workshop at PLDI, Orlando, FL, Jun. 2023.
- "Finding and Exploiting Parallelism with Data-Structure-Aware Static and Dynamic Analysis." *Thesis Defense*, CMU, Pittsburgh, PA, Feb. 2019.
- "Data-structure-aware program analysis for macro-scale optimizations." CMU PDL Fall Retreat, Bedford Springs, PA, Oct. 2018.
- "Finding hidden concurrency: a data-structure-aware analysis for auto-parallelization." CMU PDL Fall Retreat, Bedford Springs, PA, Oct. 2017.
- "Finding hidden concurrency: a data-structure-aware analysis for auto-parallelization." MIT-CMU Annual Parlay Meeting, Cambridge, MA, Sep. 2017.
- "Macro-scale program optimizations by inferring semantic intent." CMU PDL Fall Retreat, Bedford Springs, PA, Oct. 2016.
- "Heterogeneous Core Microarchitecture for Energy Efficiency." CMU CALCM (Computer Architecture Lab at Carnegie Mellon) Lecture, Pittsburgh, PA, Apr. 2013.
- "Block-Based Heterogeneous Core Designs for Higher System Performance and Efficiency." Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship Finals, San Diego, CA, Mar. 2013 (co-presented with Gennady Pekhimenko).
- "Enabling Fine-grained Heterogeneity with Atomic Blocks." Intel ARO Workshop, Hillsboro, OR, Mar. 2013.
- "MinBD: Minimally-Buffered Deflection Routing for Energy-Efficient Interconnect." 6th ACM/IEEE International Symposium on Networks-on-Chip (NOCS), Lyngby, Denmark, May 2012.
- "Memory Latency Tolerance: Skipahead & Efficient Runahead." Intel ARO Workship, Hillsboro, OR, Feb. 2012.
- "Memory Power Management via Dynamic Voltage/Frequency Scaling," 8th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Autonomic Computing (ICAC), Karlsruhe, Germany, Jun. 2011.

• "CHIPPER: A Low-complexity Bufferless Deflection Router," 17th International IEEE Symposium on High Performance Computer Architecture (HPCA), San Antonio, TX, Feb. 2011.

Service

- External review committee for ASPLOS 2024.
- External review committee for ISCA 2024.

Research Experience

- Post-doc for Prof. Todd Mowry and Prof. Phil Gibbons, CS, CMU, Mar 2019 Jun 2019. Continuing thesis research
 on program analysis for parallelization and other transforms. Developed type-system approach to deriving program
 parallelizability.
- Ph.D. research assistant for Prof. Todd Mowry and Prof. Phil Gibbons, ECE, CMU, Jun 2015 Feb 2019. Developing techniques for auto-parallelization and other high-level code transforms via static and dynamic code analysis.
- Ph.D. research assistant for Prof. Onur Mutlu, ECE, CMU, Aug 2009 Jul 2013. Developed new energy-efficient core microarchitecture designs, energy-efficient network-on-chip designs, and memory system power scaling techniques.

Teaching Experience

Carnegie Mellon University, spring 2010, spring 2012, Teaching Assistant, ECE Dept.

- TA for Introduction to Computer Architecture, 18-447, in spring 2012. Developed pipeline timing simulator in C and series of lab assignments, updated existing Verilog lab assignments, ran one lab session/recitation and held office hours, played major role in developing exams.
- TA for Parallel Comp. Arch., 18-742, in spring 2010. Mentored student research projects, delivered several lectures.

University of Notre Dame, spring 2008, fall 2008, spring 2009, Teaching Assistant, Computer Science & Engr. Dept.

- TA for Logic Design, CSE 20221, in spring 2008 and spring 2009. Graded homeworks and supervised one lab section.
- TA for Computer Architecture I, CSE 30321, in fall 2008. Supervised weekly lab, held office hours, wrote homeworks.

Internships

Intel Corporation, Graduate Technical Intern (Hillsboro, OR), May – September 2012

• Worked in Intel Architecture Development Group on core architecture. Performed simulation studies to investigate mechanisms for memory latency tolerance.

Intel Corporation, Graduate Technical Intern (Hillsboro, OR), June – September 2010

- Conducted research in Power Management Architecture group, System Architecture Lab, Intel Labs.
- Evaluated mechanisms for processor and memory frequency and voltage scaling for server platforms. Resulted in ICAC 2011 publication on memory DVFS (dynamic voltage/frequency scaling).

Cypress Semiconductor, Undergraduate Co-op (Beaverton, OR), May – August 2007 and May – August 2008

- Worked on integrated development environment and EDA (electronic design automation) tools for programmable FPGA-like mixed analog/digital chips.
- Built generic design-rule check (DRC) framework to highlight errors in schematic design editor which became an user-visible feature in shipping software.

Graduate Coursework

- CMU: Grad. Computer Architecture (ECE/CS), Advanced OS & Dist. Sys (CS), Algorithms in the Real World (CS), Optimizing Compilers (CS), Storage Systems (ECE), Analytical Performance Modeling (CS), VLSI CAD (ECE)
- ND: Graduate Algorithms (CSE)

Research Fellowships

SRC Graduate Research Fellowship, Aug 2009 – Jul 2010. Awarded April 2009.

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, Aug 2010 – Jul 2013. Awarded April 2009.

Bertucci Fellowship, 2013. Internal CMU College of Engineering fellowship. Awarded January 2013.

Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship Honorable Mention, 2013-2014 (with Gennady Pekhimenko). Awarded April 2013.

Honors

- Distinguished Paper Award, ASPLOS 2023.
- One of five papers nominated for Best Paper Award, NOCS 2012.
- Steiner Award in Engineering, Notre Dame, April 2009 (awarded to one graduating senior in each engineering discipline)
- Tau Beta Pi and Upsilon Pi Epsilon engineering honors societies
- Engineering Honors Program, Notre Dame
- Dean's List, all semesters at Notre Dame

Professional Associations

• Member, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) since Nov. 2006 (Full professional member since Mar. 2019)

References

Available upon request.