

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**
Database Group
Industry Affiliates

CMU Database Group
OVERVIEW
Fall 2024

<https://db.cs.cmu.edu>

CMU DATABASE GROUP

Research

Teaching

Seminars

RESEARCH AGENDA (2013-2023)

Our focus in the last decade has been on the use of AI/ML to automatically configure, optimize, and operate database management systems.

→ Includes both creating the ML methods for tuning systems and designing new system architectures to support automated control.

Existing Systems: OtterTune (*dead*)

Self-Driving Systems: NoisePage (*defunct*), DB Gym

OBSERVATION

Lots of innovation in the last 10 years on modern DBMS architectures in both academia and industry.

→ Many of those players are in this room right now.

→ Most academics are building off of **DuckDB** these days.

But the most efficient system and robust ML methods are wasted if the DBMS chooses bad query plans and cannot adapt at runtime...

RESEARCH AGENDA (2024-???)

New cost-based query optimization service (optd) designed for modern data-intensive systems.

Optimization is not a one-shot operation. Service will generate a plan, follow its execution behavior to learn whether the chosen was correct or not, and make incremental changes.

Current prototype relies on DataFusion front-end:

- Input: SQL
- Output: DataFusion plan (switching to Substrait)
- Stretch Goal: Emit SQL with plan hints.

OPTD: DESIGN GOALS

Goal #1: Parallel Search

- Multiple asynchronous threads simultaneously exploring solution space for the same query.
- Enable the service to explore wider solution space for each query more efficiently.

Goal #2: Workload/Pipeline Optimization

- Support holistic optimization for multiple queries for ETL/ELT pipelines (i.e., dbt).
- Identify redundancies and opportunities to combine queries to reduce execution time/cost.

OPTD: DESIGN GOALS

Goal #3: Explainable Decision Making

- Maintain meta-data about a query's optimization search progress and why it makes certain decisions.
- Makes it easier for human and other tools to decipher the reasoning why query plans look the way they do.

Goal #4: Incremental / Restartable Searches

- Service can use same debug meta-data to pause and restart optimization for individual queries.
- Automatic invalidation of cached state based on new information derived from runtime observations.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS



User-bypass Database Architectures (eBPF)

→ *Embedding DBMS logic inside OS kernel.*

Database Gyms (PostgreSQL)

→ *Batteries-included ML/AI training platform for databases.*

UDF Compilation Magic (PL/SQL, Python)

→ *Automatic optimization of UDFs via inlining/outlining.*

Future File Formats

→ *Next generation open-source columnar file format.*

CMU DATABASE COURSES



Intro to Database Systems (15-445/645)

- Fundamentals of disk-oriented DBMS architectures.
- Enrollment: ~130 students per semester (BS/MS)

Advanced Database Systems (15-721)

- Latest research on modern data-intensive systems.
- Enrollment: 20-40 students per semester (BS/MS/PhD)

Special Topics in Databases (15-799)

- Spring 2022: Self-Driving Databases
- Spring 2025: Query Optimizers
- Enrollment: 20 students (BS/MS/PhD)

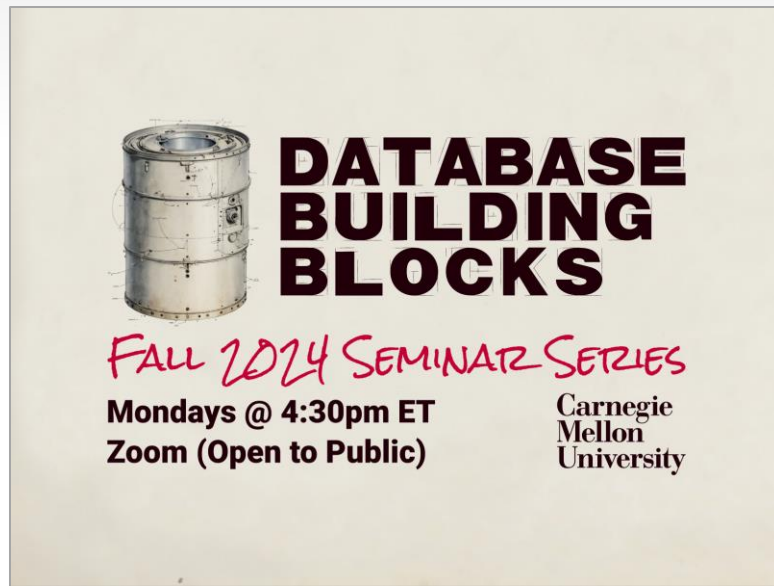
Database Building Blocks

Mondays @ 4:30pm (starting on 9/23)

Live on Zoom. Published to YouTube afterwards.

Open to the public.

<https://db.cs.cmu.edu/seminar2024>



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