

Rares Vernica

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Education

- 2005-present University of California, Irvine
School of Information and Computer Sciences
Information Systems Group
Summer 2007, advanced to candidacy, PhD
Fall 2006, advanced to candidacy, MS
- 2004 University *Politehnica* of Bucharest, Romania
School of Automatic Control and Computers
BS in Computer Science and Engineering

Honors & awards

- 2009 Microsoft Student Travel Award for KEYS 2009, Workshop on Keyword Search on Structured Data, collocated with SIGMOD 2009;
- 2005-2006 Chair's Fellowship, Computer Science Department, University of California, Irvine;
2005 California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (CalIt2) Fellowship;
- 1999 - 2004 Merit-Based Scholarship, University *Politehnica* of Bucharest, Romania.

Work experience

- 2005-present University of California, Irvine
Graduate Student Researcher and Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science
Interests in the area of database and information systems, particularly in the area of data cleansing
Projects:
ASTERIX, A Highly Scalable Parallel Platform for Semistructured Data Management and Analysis
<http://asterix.ics.uci.edu/>;
Family Reunification, *help people find their loved ones during or after a disaster*
<http://fr.ics.uci.edu/>;
Flamingo, *how to deal with errors and inconsistencies in information systems*
<http://flamingo.ics.uci.edu/>;

- Summer 2007 Microsoft Research, Redmond, CA
Intern, Data Management, Exploration and Mining Group (DMX)
Research in the area of data exploration, particularly in the area of large scale entity extraction;
- Summer 2006 Yahoo! Inc., Sunnyvale, CA
Intern, Strategic Data Solutions
Developed data-pipeline testing framework in a share-nothing distributed architecture;
- Spring 2005 *Transilvania* University of Brasov, Romania
Teaching Assistant, Department of Applied Informatics
Classes: Internet Technologies;
- Summer 2004 Learning Lab Lower Saxony (L3S), Hannover, Germany
Research Assistant
Developed publish/subscribe system for peer-to-peer networks;
- 2002-2003 Finsiel, Bucharest, Romania
Web Developer
Developed web applications for The European Environment Agency in Python and Zope;
- 2001-2002 Websoft, Bucharest, Romania
Web Developer
Developed e-commerce applications in PHP.

Publications & talks

- 2009 Rares Vernica, Chen Li: *Efficient Top-k Algorithms for Fuzzy Search in String Collections*. KEYS 2009: 9-14, Workshop on Keyword Search on Structured Data, collocated with SIGMOD 2009
- 2008 Venkatesh Ganti, Arnd Christian König, Rares Vernica: *Entity Categorization Over Large Document Collections*. KDD 2008: 274-282
- 2008 Liang Jin, Chen Li, Rares Vernica: *SEPIA: Estimating Selectivities of Approximate String Predicates in Large Databases*. VLDBJ. 17(5): 1213-1229 (2008)
- 2006 Nick Koudas, Chen Li, Anthony K. H. Tung, Rares Vernica: *Relaxing Join and Selection Queries*. VLDB 2006: 199-210

Hobbies

Kendo, All United States Kendo Federation, rank 1 Dan.