



2014 USENIX Annual Technical Conference

Sponsored by USENIX, the Advanced Computing Systems Association

June 19–20, 2014, Philadelphia, PA

USENIX ATC '14 will take place during USENIX Federated Conferences Week, June 17–20, 2014.

Important Dates

Paper titles and abstracts due: *Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 5:59 p.m. GMT*

Complete paper submissions due: *Friday, January 31, 2014, 5:59 p.m. GMT*

Notification to authors: *Monday, April 7, 2014*

Re-submitted papers due: *Monday, May 5, 2014, 5:59 p.m. GMT*

Final paper files due: *Monday, May 12, 2014*

Conference Organizers

Program Co-Chairs

Garth Gibson, *Carnegie Mellon University*

Nickolai Zeldovich, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Program Committee

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Kobus Van der Merwe, *University of Utah*

Robert N.M. Watson, *University of Cambridge*

Emmett Witchel, *The University of Texas at Austin*

Ding Yuan, *University of Toronto*

Overview

Authors are invited to submit original and innovative papers to the Refereed Papers Track of the 2014 USENIX Annual Technical Conference. We seek high-quality submissions that further the knowledge and understanding of modern computing systems with an emphasis on implementations and experimental results. We encourage papers that break new ground, present insightful results based on practical experience with computer systems, or are important, independent reproductions/refutations of the experimental results of prior work. USENIX ATC '14 has a broad scope, and specific topics of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Architectural interaction
- Big data infrastructure
- Cloud computing
- Datacenter networking
- Deployment experience
- Distributed and parallel systems
- Embedded systems
- Energy/power management
- File and storage systems
- Mobile, wireless, and sensor systems
- Networking and network services
- Operating systems
- Reliability, availability, and scalability
- Security, privacy, and trust
- System and network management and troubleshooting
- Usage studies and workload characterization
- Virtualization

USENIX ATC '14 is especially interested in papers broadly focusing on practical techniques for building better software systems: simple, clever ideas or approaches that provide practical solutions to significant issues facing practitioners. This includes all aspects of system development: techniques for developing systems software; analyzing programs and finding bugs; making systems more secure and reliable; and deploying systems and auditing their security.

Experience reports and operations-oriented studies, as well as other work that studies software artifacts, introduces new data sets of practical interest, or impacts the implementation of software components in areas of active interest to the community are well-suited for the conference.

The conference seeks both long-format papers consisting of 12 pages and short-format papers of 6 pages. Short papers will be included in the proceedings, and will be presented as normal but in sessions with slightly shorter time limits.

Re-submission Option

To encourage timely publication of exciting new ideas, USENIX ATC '14 will offer submitters an option to revise and re-submit papers in cases where the PC believes the paper's ideas are compelling but that there are important aspects in which the paper is lacking and might be quickly fixed. For this class of unacceptable papers, authors will be allowed one month to address the feedback from the reviewers and will be allowed to re-submit a revised paper for a second round of consideration with a turnaround of one week. Revised papers will be read by additional PC members but will not receive full reviews at this stage. Papers that pass this second round will be accepted to appear at the conference. Due to timing constraints, if the revised paper is accepted, it will be accepted as the camera-ready version with no further changes possible.

Best Paper Awards

Cash prizes will be awarded to the best papers at the conference. Please see www.usenix.org/publications/proceedings for Best Paper winners from previous years.

Best of the Rest Track

The USENIX Annual Technical Conference is the senior USENIX forum covering the full range of technical research in systems software. Over the past two decades USENIX has added a range of more specialized conferences. ATC is proud of the content being published by its sibling USENIX conferences and will be bringing a track of encore presentations to ATC '14. This "Best of the Rest" track will allow Federated Conference Week attendees to sample the full range of systems software research in one forum, offering both novel ATC presentations and encore presentations from recent offerings of ATC's sibling conferences.

What to Submit

Authors are required to submit abstracts and titles for their papers by the abstract deadline, followed by full papers by the paper submission deadline. *These are hard deadlines; no extensions will be given.* All submissions for USENIX ATC '14 will be electronic, in PDF format, through the Web submission form.

USENIX ATC '14 will accept two types of papers:

Full papers: Submitted papers must be no longer than 12 single-spaced 8.5" by 11" pages, including figures, tables, and references. Papers should be formatted in 2 columns, using 10-point type on 12-point leading, in a text block of 6.5" by 9". Figures and tables must be large enough to be legible when printed on 8.5" by 11" paper. Color may be used, but the paper should remain readable when printed in monochrome. The first page of the paper should include the paper title and author name(s); reviewing is single-blind. **Papers longer than 12 pages or violating formatting specifications will not be reviewed.** In a good paper, the authors will have:

- Addressed a significant problem
- Devised an interesting and practical solution or provided an important, independent, and experimental reproduction/refutation of prior solutions
- Clearly described what they have and have not implemented
- Demonstrated the benefits of their solution
- Articulated the advances beyond previous work
- Drawn appropriate conclusions

Short papers: Authors with a contribution for which a full paper is not appropriate may submit short papers of at most 6 pages with the same formatting guidelines as full papers. Examples of short paper contributions include:

- Original or unconventional ideas at a preliminary stage of development
- The presentation of interesting results that do not require a full-length paper, such as negative results or experimental validation
- Advocacy of a controversial position or fresh approach

For more details on the submission process and for templates to use with LaTeX and Word, authors should consult the detailed submission requirements linked from the Call for Papers Web site. Specific questions about submissions may be sent to atc14chairs@usenix.org.

By default, all papers will be made available online to registered attendees before the conference. If your accepted paper should not be published prior to the event, please notify production@usenix.org. In any case, the papers will be available online to everyone beginning on the first day of the conference, June 19, 2014.

Papers accompanied by nondisclosure agreement forms will not be considered. Accepted submissions will be treated as confidential prior to publication on the USENIX ATC '14 Web site; rejected submissions will be permanently treated as confidential.

Simultaneous submission of the same work to multiple venues, submission of previously published work, or plagiarism constitutes dishonesty or fraud. USENIX, like other scientific and technical conferences and journals, prohibits these practices and may take action against authors who have committed them. See the USENIX Conference Submissions Policy at www.usenix.org/conferences/submissions-policy for details.

Note that the above does not preclude the submission of a regular full paper that overlaps with a previous short paper or workshop paper. However, any submission that derives from an earlier paper must provide a significant new contribution (for example, by providing a more complete evaluation), and must explicitly mention the contributions of the submission over the earlier paper. If you have questions, contact your program co-chairs, atc14chairs@usenix.org, or the USENIX office, submissionspolicy@usenix.org.

Authors will be notified of paper acceptance or rejection by April 7, 2014. Acceptance will typically be conditional, subject to shepherding by a program committee member.

Program and Registration Information

Complete program and registration information will be available in April 2014 on the conference Web site.

