

# Christopher Gropp

*Curriculum Vitae*

## PERSONAL DETAILS

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*Birth* May 10, 1991  
*Address* 811 Issaqueena Trail #1306, Central, SC 29630  
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## EDUCATION

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**BS in Computer Science, Mathematics,  
and Computational Science** 2013

*Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology*

Notable classes include:

- Theory of Computation
- Functions of a Real Variable
- Deterministic Models for Operations Research
- Hidden Markov Models
- Swarm Intelligence

**MS in Computer Science** 2016

*Clemson University*

**PhD in Computer Science** Anticipated 2019

*Clemson University*

Notable classes include:

- Design and Analysis of Algorithms
- Fundamentals of Biometric Systems
- Translation of Programming Languages
- Software Architecture

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Build To Order Linear Algebra Kernels** 2012

*Christopher Gropp (presenter), Geoffrey Belter, Elizabeth Jessup, Thomas Nelson, Boyana Norris, Jeremy Siek. Poster presented at Supercomputing, 2012 Nov 10-16; Salt Lake City, UT.*

Competitively Reviewed Poster Session

Explained design and function of code generation software developed by University of Colorado at Boulder, as well as results of testing I performed while working there.

**Analyzing Clustered Latent Dirichlet Allocation** 2016

*Christopher Gropp. Masters Thesis, Clemson University; Clemson, SC.*

Develops the groundwork for an alternative approach to dynamic topic modeling utilizing existing parallel code, and performs preliminary analysis of the effectiveness of the approach.

**Scalable Dynamic Topic Modeling with Clustered Latent Dirichlet Allocation (CLDA)** 2017

*Christopher Gropp, Alexander Herzog, Ilya Safro, Paul W. Wilson, Amy W. Apon. arXiv:1610.07703 [cs.IR]*

Presents a scalable topic model for analyzing text corpora over long time scales, as well as developing and applying the metrics necessary to evaluate the quality of its results.

**Automated Cluster Provisioning And Workflow Management for Parallel Scientific Applications in the Cloud** 2017

*Brandon Posey, Christopher Gropp, Alexander Herzog, Amy W. Apon. Presented at Supercomputing 2017.*

Develops a system for provisioning cloud workflows, and applies this to scale a topic modeling application up to over 28,000 vCPUs in minutes.

**Representativeness of Latent Dirichlet Allocation Topics Estimated from Data Samples with Application to Common Crawl** 2017

*Yuheng Du, Alexander Herzog, Andre Luckow, Ramu Nerella, Christopher Gropp and Amy W. Apon. Presented at IEEE BigData 2017.*

Uses several types of similarity measures to evaluate the usefulness of the CommonCrawl web sample as compared to true random sampling in the context of inferring topic models.

**Addressing the Challenges of Executing a Massive Computational Cluster in the Cloud** 2018

*Brandon Posey, Christopher Gropp, Boyd Wilson, Boyd McGeachie, Sanjay Padhi, Alexander Herzog, Amy Apon. To appear at CCGrid 2018.*

Discusses the challenges and solutions involved in scaling up a topic modeling workflow to over 1.1 million vCPUs on the Amazon cloud.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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**Internship at Oak Ridge National Laboratory** 2010

*Research Advisor: Dr. Rebecca Hartman-Baker*

Designed and ran experiments on Jaguar, at the time the fastest supercomputer in the world  
Attended seminars and learned a number of techniques for parallel computing  
Located performance bottlenecks in leadership-level nuclear physics code using VampirTrace

**Internship at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** 2011

*Research Advisor: Dr. Albert Valocchi, Civil and Environmental Engineering*

Consulted for development of PFLOTRAN, a leadership level program for groundwater modeling  
Gained experience interfacing with domain specialists

## **Internship at University of Colorado at Boulder**

2012

*Research Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Jessup, Computer Science*

Worked with BTO-BLAS (Built-to-order Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms), a code generation tool

Designed, implemented, and ran performance evaluations comparing scalability to other BLAS libraries

Presented findings at Supercomputing 2012

## **Misc. Projects at Clemson University**

2014-present

*Research Advisor: Dr. Amy Apon, Computer Science*

Designed and implemented a pipeline for storing and processing social media data

Led a team to develop a game for tracking car movement

Constructed a data and code generator for solving stable matching problem

Developed and analyzed a hybrid system for approximating dynamic topic models

Designed and implemented a framework for pre-processing and unifying text data

Implemented a synthetic data generator for topic modeling

Designed and implemented a scalable experiment pipeline for topic models in the cloud, and scaled this to over 1.1 million vCPUs

## **SKILLS**

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*Languages*      C, C++, C#, FORTRAN, PYTHON, JAVA, MATLAB, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

*Methodology*    MPI, Parallel Algorithms, Software Design Patterns, Software Architecture, Linear Algebra, Machine Learning, Topic Models

## **REFERENCES**

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Available upon request