

MSc Alumni Newsletter 2022

Recent News

HKBU AI and Databases Ranked in World's Top 50 by CSRankings



According to the recent release of [CSRankings 2021](#), HKBU rises to No. 13 in Databases and No. 37 in Artificial intelligence (AI) globally, an impressive jump of positions from No. 90 and No. 95 last year respectively. HKBU Computer Science first hits the No. 1 place in AI in Hong Kong. In addition, HKBU ranks No. 64 in Web & Information Retrieval and No. 72 in Machine Learning & Data Mining worldwide.

CSRankings is a metrics-based ranking of top computer science institutions around the world. It identifies institutions and faculty actively engaged in research across a number of areas of computer science, based on the number of publications by faculty that have appeared at the most selective conferences in each area of computer science.

Outstanding Computer Science Alumni Give Insights on AI & Big Data in Homecoming Workshop



The COMP Alumni Homecoming Workshop on AI and Big Data was successfully held on 6 November 2021 in mixed modes, in-person and virtual. Over 100 alumni, staff, students, and guests attended the workshop.

Professor Jiming Liu, Dean of Science and Chair Professor of Department of Computer Science, warmly welcomed all the alumni to reunite on campus and virtually. He felt grateful that many alumni supported the Department and keened to learn its latest development.

All nine invited COMP alumni speakers attained their PhD degrees in HKBU and are currently working in academics in Hong Kong and China or leading companies in IT industry. They include Professor Xiaolong Jin of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China; Professor Mang Ye of Wuhan University, China; Dr. Shaohuai Shi of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Dr. Qian Chen of Google; Dr. Xiaowei Chen of OneConnect Financial Technology, Hong Kong; Dr. Jinhua Ma of Sun Yat-sen University, China; Dr. Fei Liu, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University; Dr. Zhe Fan of China Merchants Securities; and Dr. Lei Chen of Huawei Noah's Ark Lab. The participants were amazed by speakers' intriguing sharing on their findings or working experiences related to AI and Big Data and the workshop gave them rooms for further discussion on the theme topics.

After the sharing sessions, Professor Jianliang Xu, Head of Department of Computer Science, expressed his deep gratitude to the alumni speakers' support to the Department and made this workshop a successful one. The Department would dedicate to connecting alumni with different kinds of events in the near future.



IAPR/IEEE Winter School on Biometrics 2022 Is Successfully Held



The IAPR/IEEE Winter School on Biometrics 2022 (WSB2022) was held in Shenzhen on 9 to 13 January, 2022. Jointly organised by the Department of Computer Science, Hong Kong Baptist University, the Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Southern University of Science and Technology, the winter school attracted around 100 participants, including professors and senior postgraduate students from world-wide tertiary institutions. Due to the worldwide outspread of COVID-19, the winter school introduced online lecture as well.

The 5-day winter school included lectures, hands-on session, talks from industry and social programme. To consolidate the fundamental knowledge of biometrics and share the latest biometric development, the scope of the course is designed to cover the topics which mainly include mobile biometrics, anti-spoofing, template protection, and fundamental of different biometric modalities. New and challenging topics are covered in the course by internationally renowned experts from all over the world.

The lectures sparked plentiful interaction between the speakers and the audience. Overwhelmingly positive comments are received.



Lunchbite



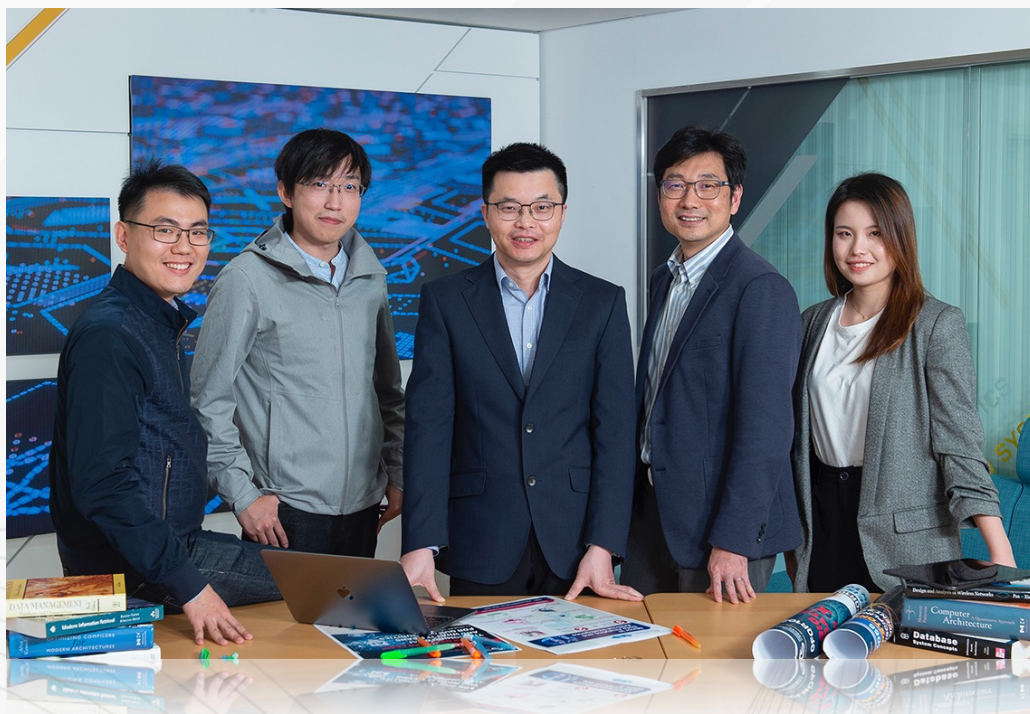
To offer a channel for students to share ideas and raise questions regarding the study and life in Hong Kong and HKBU, one lunchbite has been held on 27 September 2021. Our alumni, ZHAO Xianglin was invited to share the study experience in HKBU and life in Hong Kong. All students enjoy the sharing and there are a lot pleasant discussions in the gatherings.

Virtual Professional Mentorship Gathering

9 alumni have joined the Professional Mentorship Scheme 2021-22 as mentors to interact with 53 mentees. Two mentoring gatherings were held on 6 October 2021 and 12 March 2022. Mentors shared their working experience, the practices in the industry, and provided advices to the mentees regarding career planning.

Through the Professional Mentorship Scheme, mentors can guide and share their experience with their mentees, so that mentees can plan their future ahead! We look for your participation to join to the scheme as a mentor or a mentee. Stay tuned!

Student and Staff Achievements



HKBU-led Secure Data Sharing and Analytics Research Project Awarded HK\$6.7 Million Funding

A secure data and analytics research project led by Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) has been granted HK\$6.7 million by the Collaborative Research Fund (CRF) of the Research Grants Council (RGC) in the 2021-22 exercise.

"This is the first project funded by CRF on the topic of secure data sharing and analytics. It is a good recognition of our research excellence and leadership in big data and blockchain technology," Professor Jianliang Xu, Principal Coordinator of the research project and Head of Department of Computer Science, HKBU.

Titled ***User-controlled Secure Data Sharing and Analytics with Blockchain and Trusted Computing Technologies***, the project focuses on developing new blockchain and trusted computing technologies to enable user-controlled data sharing, searches, and analytics.

This research project proposes a brand new perspective of user-centric data sharing approach to give control back to users, allowing data owners to fully control the sharing and access of their data, so as to eliminate users' privacy concerns, increase their willingness to share data, and break data silos, said Professor Xu.

Professor Yiu-ming Cheung Appointed as the Editor-in-Chief of IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computational Intelligence



Professor Yiu-ming Cheung, Chair Professor at the Department of Computer Science, has been appointed as the Editor-in-Chief of IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computational Intelligence (TETCI) for the term of 2023-2024.

Professor Cheung's research focuses on Machine Learning and Visual Computing, as well as their applications in Data Science, Multi-objective Optimization, and Information Security. "It is really a true honor for me to take a leadership role in the development of TETCI. This is another example of how HKBU scholars are highly recognized internationally. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank HKBU, in particular Faculty of Science and the Department of Computer Science, for their strong support! I am very confident that TETCI will reach greater heights in the next few years." said Professor Cheung.

As one of the flagship publications of IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, TETCI (2021 Impact Factor: 4.851) publishes original articles on emerging aspects of computational intelligence, including theory, applications, and surveys. The details can be found at <https://cis.ieee.org/publications/t-emerging-topics-in-ci>.

Dr. Li Chen Appointed Co-Editor-in-Chief of the ACM Transactions on Recommender Systems

Dr. Li Chen, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, has been appointed Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Transactions on Recommender Systems in the coming three years. The issue of the new ACM Transactions on Recommender Systems will be issued on a quarterly basis. She is looking forward to working with the leading computing scholars.

ACM Transactions on Recommender Systems targets to publish high quality papers that address various aspects of recommender systems research. The journal takes a holistic view on the field and calls for contributions from different subfields of computer science and information systems, such as machine learning, data mining, information retrieval, web-based systems, data science and big data, and human-computer interaction. Details can be found at <https://dl.acm.org/journal/tors>.



Dr. Jing Ma Recognised as The 2022 Woman in AI

Dr. Jing Ma, Assistant Professor of the Department of Computer Science, has been recognised as one of "The 2022 Women in AI" by AMiner for her outstanding performance in information retrieval and natural language processing.

The Women in AI list is to honor the most influential female scholars worldwide who take part in AI-related career paths. This year, there are a total of 262 female scholars from over the world being awarded and only four are from Hong Kong.

AMiner is a comprehensive online academic search and mining system for researcher social networks, developed by Tsinghua University. Currently, the academic network includes more than 6,000 conferences, 3,200,000 publications and 700,000 researcher profiles.



Dr. Xin Huang and Dr. Jing Ma Named Recipients of “2022 AI 2000 Most Influential Scholar Award Honorable Mention” by AMiner

Dr. Xin Huang and Dr. Jing Ma, Assistant Professors of the Department of Computer Science, have been recognised as the 2022 AI 2000 Most Influential Scholar Award Honorable Mention by AMiner for their outstanding and vibrant contributions to the fields of Database and AAAI/IJCAI respectively.

[The AI 2000 Most Influential Scholar Annual List](#) aims to name 2,000 of the world's top research scholars from the fields of artificial intelligence over this decade (2020-2029). The list is conferred in recognition of outstanding technical achievements with lasting contribution and impact. Each year, the top 10 scholars from each domain will be named as "AI 2000 Most Influential Scholars" and the top 11-100 scholars will be awarded as "AI 2000 Most Influential Scholar Honorable Mention". The 2022 winners are among the most-impactful scholars from the top venues of their respective subject fields between 2012 and 2021.



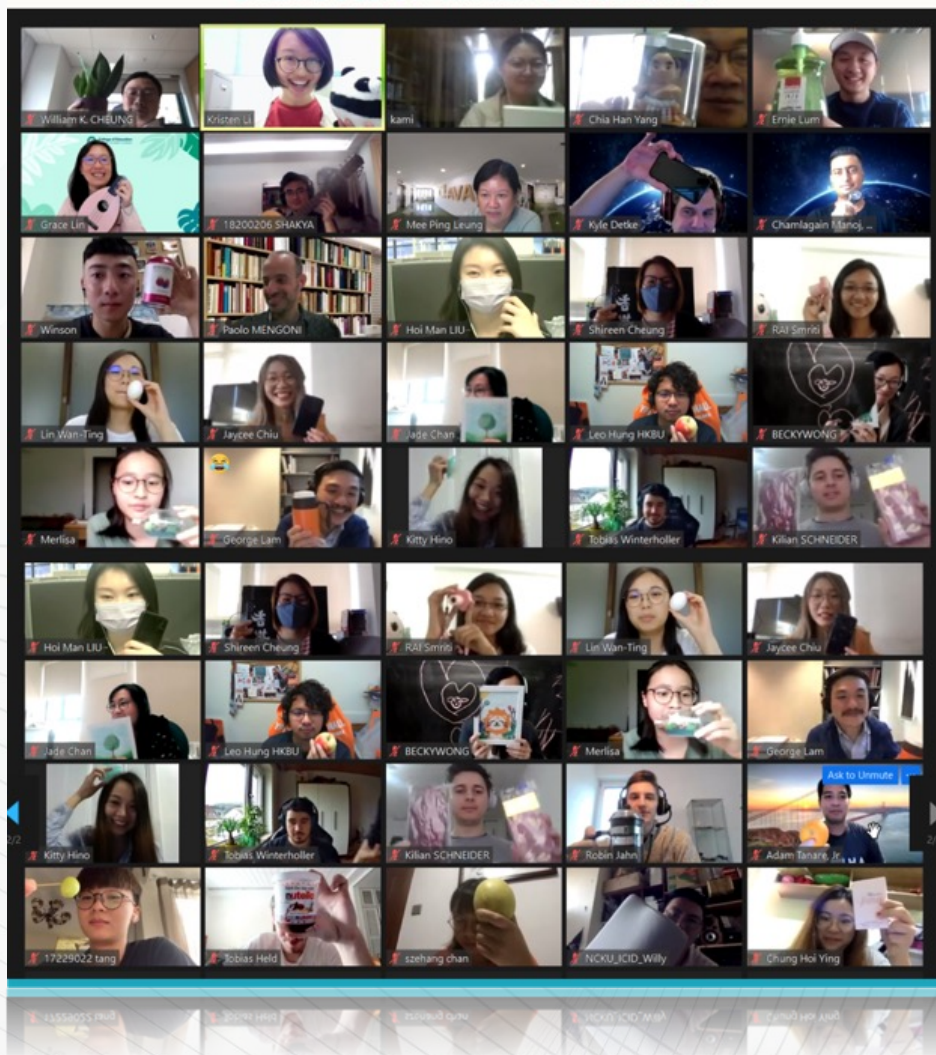
Prof. Byron Choi Receives HKBU President's Award for Outstanding Performance in Individual Teaching

With a straightforward teaching philosophy: "I teach by doing, students learn by doing," Prof. Choi places strong emphasis on balancing knowledge with practical experience, and he often explains fundamental concepts on advanced computing via real-life scenarios. He facilitates students to grasp critical theoretical frameworks by citing well-known examples and programmes, and he designs interesting questions to deepen their understanding of the material. He also maintains effective communication with students using their favourite approaches like instant messaging mobile applications.

Prof. Choi's supervision on research postgraduates is demonstrative of his learner-centred approach to teaching. Most notably, he supervised a Master's of Science (MSc) student who is suffering from cerebral palsy (CP) and only able to move one finger and perfectly articulate five sounds. Under Dr. Choi's guidance, the student successfully developed the CS2Joy software system, helping CP patients to control a computer that processes sounds as commands, rather than keyboards or mice. This work was later awarded the Social Innovation and Entrepreneur Development Fund in January 2019.

Congratulations to Prof. Byron Choi!

HKBU2021
Reimagine Future Learning
VILLAGE CARE CO-CREATION CHALLENGE
ONLINE DESIGN THINKING WORKSHOP



MSc student team won Champion of the Reimagine Future Learning Challenge

Tobias Held and Chuqing Gao (ITM 20/21), with project which promotes the awareness of culture diversity in Village CARE, won the Champion of the Reimagine Future Learning Challenge. In this challenge, university students from Hong Kong, Germany and USA joined the competition to co-design future education.

Congratulations Tobias and Chuqing!

Announcement

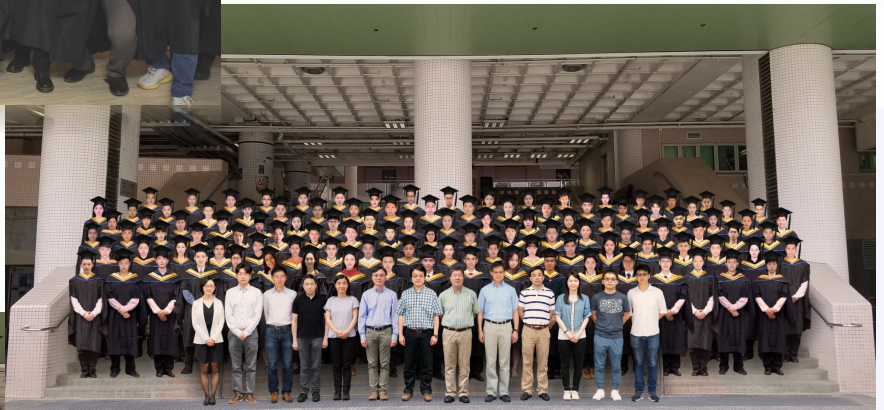
Congratulations to our MSc Graduates

A gathering was held for the graduates of 2020/2021 on 16 November 2021. Graduates have taken photos with the peers and staff.

To celebrate the completion of study, the Department has prepared a composed graduation photo for the 2021/2022 graduates.

Congratulations!

“When you have a dream, you’ve got to grab it and never let go.”
- Carol Burnett



Library and Email Services for Alumni

Our MSc alumni can continue to have access to the library services of HKBU by paying an annual fee. For details, please refer to

<https://library.hkbu.edu.hk/services/apply-for-library-privileges/graduate-service-package/>

Stay Connected

To stay connected with us, you are welcome to join our WeChat Alumni Group. The naming convention of the group: <"BU COMP MSc Alumni"> + <Cohort>. For example, if your intake year is 2021/22, you are eligible to join the group "BU COMP MSc Alumni 2021/22". Both MSc in ITM and MSc in AIS/DAAI graduates from the same cohort will join the same group. Our department will make announcements to our alumni via this group from time to time. Stay tuned!

We look forward to catching up with you in the forthcoming alumni events!

