

Diana Zhang

Carnegie Mellon University WiTech Lab
4119 Collaborative Innovation Center
4720 Forbes Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Phone: (646)696-8517
Email: dianaz1@andrew.cmu.edu
Homepage: <http://www.dianazhang.net/>

Research Interests

Computer Systems; Wireless Communications; Computer Networking; Sensing; Mobility

Education

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA

Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Beginning Aug. 2016 (In Progress)

Advisor: Swarun Kumar

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania USA

B.S. in Electrical Engineering; B.S. in Computer Engineering, May 2016

with Honors, Distinction, and an International Engineering Certificate.

Studied abroad at The University of Auckland in Semester One, 2015

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Carnegie Mellon University, Aug. 2016 - Present

Advisor: Swarun Kumar

WiFi Interferer Material Classification and Localization (Aug. 2017-Present): Currently, I work with off-the-shelf WiFi cards to classify the material of an environmental object (eg. wood, metal, human) using its physical properties, and to determine what angle the object is at. Since WiFi signals can propagate around corners and through walls, we hope to use this technology for autonomous vehicles and searching disaster sites.

LPWANs (October 2016- Present): I consider challenges and opportunities as IoT, and its enabling communication technology, Low-Power Wide Area Networks, scales densely. I work on implementing and evaluating methods for issues like handling collisions, increasing range, and network localization.

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Clemson University, June 2014 - Aug. 2014

Mentors: Jacob Sorber, Josiah Hester

Federated Power: In intermittent computing, it is not guaranteed that sensor nodes will have a continuous and unbounded supply of energy. To handle this, I worked on the early idea and prototyping stages of federated power, for which an ultra-low-power processor allocates a power supply to different components of a node.

Publications

R. Eletreby, D. Zhang, S. Kumar and O. Yağan: "Empowering Low-Power Wide Area Networks in Urban Settings" - ACM SIGCOMM 2017

Honors and Awards

ARCS Pittsburgh Chapter Scholar, Aug. 2016-Present

Michel E. and Kathy Doreau Graduate Fellowship in ECE, Aug. 2016-May 2016

Penn State Women in Engineering Joelle Leadership Award, May 2016

Recognizes a woman who demonstrated leadership, citizenship, and volunteer spirit that positively affect the climate for women in the College of Engineering

Industry Experience

Embedded Software Engineering Intern, Harris Corporation, June 2016 - August 2016

People Sensing: Investigated methods for calculating the number of people in a room, and implemented and deployed a prototype entry/exit counter in Python on a Raspberry Pi.

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Intern, Carnegie Mellon University

Introduction to Telecommunication Networks Spring 2017 S. Kumar

Undergraduate Teaching Intern, Penn State University

Introduction to Programming Techniques Spring 2016 S. Shaffer

Digital Design: Theory and Practice Fall 2015 J. Sampson, V. Narayanan

Circuits and Devices Fall 2014 D. Salvia

Lab Assistant, Penn State University Fall 2013, Spring 2014 D. Salvia

Graduate Coursework

Wireless Networks and Applications Spring 2017 P. Steenkiste

Wireless Communications Fall 2016 R. Negi

Packet Switching and Computer Networks Fall 2016 H. Kim

Involvement

Volunteer: CMU ECE Spark Saturdays, Fall 2016-Present

Volunteer for High School Outreach Programs with CMU's ECE Outreach Organization

President: Penn State Association of Women in Computing, Sept. 2014 - Sept. 2015

Led efforts to attract and retain women in computing at Penn State