# DINA MAHMOUD



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## **EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer and Communication Sciences | École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) Sep 2019 –

• Relevant courses: Machine Learning, Software Security, Design Technologies for Integrated Systems

Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering (ECNG) | The American University in Cairo (AUC) Sep 2014 – Jan 2019

- GPA: 3.989/4.0 (Dean's Honors List)
- Minor: Mathematics

 Relevant courses: Computer Organization and Assembly Language Programming, Digital Logic Design, Microcontroller System Design, VLSI



### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Cyber-Defense Campus Doctoral Fellowship | Sep 2020 -

Ecole Doctorale d'Informatique et de Communication (EDIC) Fellowship | Sep 2019 – August 2020 Zewail Prize for Best Original Essay on a Multidisciplinary Topic | AUC, 2019

Academic Achievement Scholarship | AUC, 2014-2019

Highest GPA in the Senior Electronics and Communications Engineering Class | AUC, 2018

Outstanding Academic Achievers' Honors Assembly | AUC, 2017-2018

First Place in CSCE1101 (Programming Fundamentals) Programming Contest | AUC, 2015



## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Assistant | EDIC, EPFL, Fall 2020 - Fall 2021

- Responsible guiding and providing help to students through the labs and projects of the Computer Architecture I course.
- Guided students through weekly labs involving VHDL and assembly programming.

## Head Teaching Assistant | EDIC, EPFL, Spring 2020 - Spring 2021

- Responsible for the programming part of the Information, Calcul, Communication (ICC) course.
- Guided students (300+) through weekly programming exercises in C (Spring 2020) and Python.

# Teaching Assistant | Dept. of ECNG, AUC, Spring 2019

- Guided students through execution of laboratory experiments for Digital Logic Design and Microcontroller System Design and helped them find causes of their errors by teaching them the troubleshooting approaches.
- Helped students with their assignments, course projects, and graduation projects.

#### Head Undergraduate Teaching Assistant | Dept. of ECNG, AUC, Fall 2016 - Spring 2017

- Clarified concepts to students and guided them in figuring out how to solve Digital Logic Design problems.
- Held review sessions for 20+ students.



## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

## Doctoral Assistant | Parallel Systems Architecture (PARSA) Laboratory, EDIC, EPFL, Sep 2019 -

- Working on research topics targeting hardware security of heterogeneous FPGA-CPU-GPU systems.
- Publications:
  - 1. O. Glamocanin et al., "Shared FPGAs and the Holy Grail: Protections against Side-Channel and Fault Attacks," in Design, Automation & Test in Europe (DATE), 2021.
  - 2. Demonstrating a new attack vector on shared FPGAs: D. G. Mahmoud et al., "X-attack: Remote Activation of Satisfiability Don't-Care Hardware Trojans on Shared FPGAs," paper presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Field-Programmable Logic and Applications (FPL), 2020.

## Research Assistant | SEAD Group, AUC

Jan 2017 - Aug 2019

- Worked on research topics related to fault tolerance and simulation of digital and mixed circuits.
- Publications:
  - 1. D.G. Mahmoud et al., "Runtime Replacement of Machine Learning Modules in FPGA-Based Systems," accepted for publication in Proc. of 10th Mediterranean Conference on Embedded Computing (MECO), Budva, Montenegro, 2021.

- 2. B. Shokry et al., "Triple Event Upset Tolerant Area-Efficient FPGA-Based System for Space Applications And Nuclear Plants," in Proc. of 16th IEEE International Conference on Factory Communication Systems (WFCS), Porto, 2020.
- 3. Increasing the reliability of chip-to-chip interconnections in the automotive industry: M.G. Labib et al., "Heterogeneous Redundancy for PCB Track Failures: An Automotive Example," in Proc. of 14th International Conference on Computer Engineering and Systems (ICCES), Cairo, 2019.
- 4. Proposing a more reliable architecture for on-chip memory for FPGA critical systems: M. Rumman et al., "Reliable On-Chip Memory For FPGA-Based Systems," in 31st IEEE Intl. Conf. on Microelectronics (ICM), Cairo, 2019.
- 5. G. I. Alkady et al., "Reliable FPGA-Based Network Architecture for Smart Cities," in Proc. of 31st IEEE Intl. Conf. on Microelectronics (ICM), Cairo, 2019.
- 6. Studying the possibility of using Ethernet networks in a state-of-the-art production line with high-sampling-rate machines while meeting the critical deadlines of the system and providing fault tolerance: A. Gabara et al., "Fault-Tolerant High-Rate Ethernet-Based Networked Control System," in IEEE Intl. Novel Intelligent and Leading Emerging Sciences Conf. (NILES), Cairo, 2019, pp. 84–87.
- 7. Proposing an FPGA-based system for monitoring students' focus to enhance educational programs: M. Hanna et al., "Smart FPGA-based System for Enhancing Educational Programs," in IEEE Intl. Novel Intelligent and Leading Emerging Sciences Conf. (NILES), Cairo, 2019, pp. 122–125.
- 8. Proposing an implementation for the Triple Modular Redundancy digital voter to guarantee either correct output or error signaling: D. G. Mahmoud et al., "Fault secure FPGA-based TMR voter," in 7th IEEE Mediterranean Conf. on Embedded Computing (MECO), Budva, 2018, pp. 1–4.
- 9. Proposing an FPGA-based smart band for Wireless Body Area Networks with changing fault tolerance according to environment to ensure high system availability: M. Y. ElSalamouny et al., "Highly available FPGA-based smart band for WBAN," in 12th IEEE Intl. Conf. on Computer Engineering and Systems (ICCES), Cairo, 2017, pp. 25–30.

#### Summer@EPFL Research Intern | Parallel Systems Architecture Laboratory, EPFL, Jun - Aug 2018

- Accepted to the Summer Research program (acceptance rate in 2018 was 1.9%).
- Worked on a cutting-edge research project to launch timing-fault attacks against FPGAs.
- Published a research paper at one of the top venues in design automation, showing the feasibility of a fault attack using power waster circuits on Xilinx FPGA, paving the way for more research in the area: D. Mahmoud and M. Stojilovic, "Timing Violation Induced Faults in Multi-Tenant FPGAs," in Design, Automation & Test in Europe (DATE), Florence, Italy, Mar. 2019, pp. 1745–1750.

#### **Bachelor's Graduation Project | AUC**

Feb - Dec 2018

- Explored power management techniques for electric vehicles and implemented driving cycle classification using NN Toolbox in MATLAB. Developed a HW prototype using Arduino microcontroller and Zyng board.
- Publication: D. G. Mahmoud et al., "Intelligent Battery-Aware Energy Management System for Electric Vehicles," in 24th IEEE Intl. Conf. on Emerging Technologies and Factory Automation (ETFA), Zaragoza, Spain, 2019, pp. 1635–1638.



#### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member, Technical Program Committee, IEEE International Conference on Emerging Technologies and Factory Automation (ETFA), 2021

Student Member, ACM SIGARCH, WiCARCH, IEEE



## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

#### Mentor and Speaker, Coding Club des Filles, September 2021 -

- Mentoring school girls on Dacodeck.ch to help them with their coding journey and to answer their questions.
- Spoke to school girls about my professional journey and introduced them to the basics of logic circuits and their security.

#### Hopper, Virtual Grace Hopper Celebration (vGHC), 2021

Volunteered to help run vGHC, providing session reviews and acting as a professional viewer.

## Speaker, Toi aussi, crée ton appli, Summer 2021

Introduced 21 girls aged 12 to 16 to the basics of logic circuits and their security.

## Student Representative, Research and Creativity Convention (RCC) Organizing Committee, Fall 2018

- Represented the entire student body of 5,474 undergraduate students.
- Helped in organizing the Research and Creativity Convention 2019 and contributed to promoting it to students.

#### Member and Copilot, Robotics AUC ROV team, Jan 2017 – Aug 2017

• Contributed to building the control system of a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and chosen by the team of 21 members (48% female) to act as copilot during the regional competition. Won 7<sup>th</sup> place among 19 entries.

#### Intermediate Program Head, Robotics Club, AUC, Jul 2016 - May 2017

- Responsible for quality and content of the newly established intermediate program.
- Organized meetings with the technical heads (20% female) and sessions with the members.

#### Physics Team Head, Egyptian Researchers, Mar - Sep 2016

- Wrote articles on topics in Physics to be published on Facebook and edited the team members' articles.
- Organized the article timing and content for the team.

## Basic Technical Head, Robotics Club, AUC, Fall 2015 – Spring 2016

Taught new members basics of Arduino programming and connecting digital circuits.



## **INTERNSHIPS**

#### Intern | Electrical Systems Engineering Company (ESEC)

Jul – Aug 2017

• Responsible for troubleshooting and repairing devices (digital low resistance ohmmeters and power analyzers) by interpreting circuits' diagrams and tracing faults using multimeters.

#### Trainee | Engineering for the Petroleum and Process Industries (ENPPI)

Jul 2017

Trained in the Instrumentation Engineering and Telecommunications Systems departments.



## **ACADEMIC PROJECTS**

## Google EMEA Get Ahead Program, Summer 2021.

Solved weekly coding assignments and participated in the Google coding challenge.

## Machine Learning for Side-Channel Disassembly, Machine Learning, Fall 2020.

- Implemented neural networks to identify processor instructions executed and their operands based on the electromagnetic (EM) emanation measurements of a RISC-V processor.
- Used keras and tsaug libraries.

## Implementation and Optimization of a FIR Filter, Design Technologies for Integrated Systems, Fall 2019.

- Optimized the design of a 10-stage FIR filter.
- Used ModelSim and Synopsys Design Compiler to test the optimized design.

## Channel Coding for a Wimax System, ASIC, Spring 2018.

• Implemented the channel coding (QPSK) for Wimax on an FPGA, using Altera Quartus and ModelSim.

# Smart Home Control, Power and Machines, Spring 2018.

Programmed an Arduino with a Wi-Fi module to remotely control LEDs and a DC motor, using Blynk application.

#### 4-bit Low Power ALU, VLSI, Fall 2017.

• Designed a power optimized 4-bit ALU. Implemented with PTL and CMOS logic in 0.18um technology node.

#### Performance Evaluation 16-QAM, QPSK, and Huffman Encoding, Digital Communications, Fall 2017.

• Simulated the performance of QPSK and 16 QAM over AWGN channel, and Huffman encoding using MATLAB.

## An Airplane Boarding System, Microcontroller Design, Fall 2017.

Implemented using a microcontroller, an Ethernet shield, LCD, keypad, H-bridge, DC motor, and Ultrasonic sensor.

#### Traffic Lights Control System, Automatic Control, Fall 2017.

Designed the system using optocouplers, pushbuttons, LEDs, timers, and Arduino microcontroller.

#### Implementation of an Optical Communication System, Analog Circuits, Spring 2017.

• Designed and implemented on a PCB an optical communication system.

#### ARM Thumb Simulator, and Cache Performance Evaluation, Computer Organization, Summer 2016.

• Implemented an ARM thumb in C++. Evaluated cache memory performance w.r.t. various replacement policies.

#### Implementation of a Game using SFML, Programming Fundamentals, Fall 2015.

Implemented a game with its graphical user interface using SFML and C++ programming language.



#### **SKILLS**

- Arabic: mother tongue
- English: C1French: B2
- German: A1
- Chinese: beginner
- Good knowledge of C/C++, Python, Verilog, SystemVerilog and VHDL.
- Basic knowledge of Git, Bash, Linux, Java, and HTML5.
- Competent user of Microsoft Visual Studio Code, Matlab, Cadence, ModelSim, Intel Quartus, Xilinx Vivado, and Arduino.
- Novice user of Eldo, Questa ADMS, Riverbed, and Wireshark.

References furnished upon request