DINA MAHMOUD



EDUCATION

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

Ecole Doctorale d'Informatique et de Communication (EDIC) Fellowship Student (Sep 2019 – August 2020)

Cyber-Defense Campus Doctoral Fellowship Student (Sep 2020 -)

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

GPA: 3.989/4.0 (Dean's Honors List) Academic Achievement Scholarship Minor: Mathematics



HONORS AND AWARDS

Zewail Prize for Best Original Essay on a Multidisciplinary Topic | AUC, 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

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 | EDIC, EPFL, Fall 2020

- 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.

Teaching Assistant | Dept. of Electronics and Communications Engineering, 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 Electronics and Communications Engineering, 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 FPGAs hardware security including timing fault attacks, hardware Trojans and attacks on heterogeneous 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," in Proc. of 30th 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 and used simulation softwares including LT Spice, Eldo, ModelSim, Questa ADMS, and Riverbed.

- Engaged in weekly research meeting discussions.
- Publications
 - 1. 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.
 - 2. 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.
 - 3. Proposing a more reliable architecture for on-chip memory for critical systems implemented on FPGAs: M. Rumman et al., "Reliable On-Chip Memory For FPGA-Based Systems," in Proc. of 31st IEEE Intl. Conf. on Microelectronics (ICM), Cairo, 2019.
 - 4. 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.
 - 5. 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.
 - 6. 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.
 - 7. 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.
 - 8. 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 Zynq 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.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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 7th 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 and learnt about P&IDs, field control elements, control and safety instrumented systems, detailed engineering, PAGA, PABX, CCTV, wireless transmission (Microwave, VHF, and VSAT) and fiber optic transmission systems.



ACADEMIC PROJECTS

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.

Power and Speed Analyzer, Wireless Networks and Security, Spring 2018.

• Implemented a MATLAB application to calculate the power and access data rate of captured Wi-Fi signals.

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: C2
- English: C1
- French: B2
- German: A1
- Good knowledge of C/C++, Python, Verilog, SystemVerilog and VHDL.
- Basic knowledge of Git, Linux, Java, and HTML5.
- Competent user of Microsoft Visual Studio, Matlab, Cadence, ModelSim, Intel Quartus, Xilinx Vivado, and Arduino.
- Novice user of Eldo, Questa ADMS, Riverbed, and Wireshark.