

Hien Vu

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System engineer and research architect in ML-powered sensing and wireless systems seeking co-op or full-time R&D roles.

EDUCATION

Purdue University , West Lafayette, Indiana	(expected) Aug 2026
PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering (candidate)	GPA: 3.65/4.0
University of Wisconsin-Madison , Madison, Wisconsin	May 2023
MSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering	GPA: 3.82/4.0
Hanoi University of Science and Technology , Hanoi, Vietnam	May 2018
BSc in Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering	GPA: 3.51/4.0

KEY SKILLS

- **Hardware & Embedded:** Verilog, MIPS, RISC-V, PCB Design (Altium), mmWave, UART/I2C/SPI, RF and high-speed design.
- **Software & Algorithms:** Python, C/C++, MATLAB, assembly, bash; sensor fusion, computer vision, signal processing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher – NEIS Lab, Purdue University – West Lafayette, IN	Aug 2024 – Present
• Architected a machine learning system that uses TI IWR1843 mmWave radar to track respiration of moving subjects, achieved pose tracking error < 5 cm for 97% of the time and respiration error < 3 bpm 91% of the time in breathing range 10–45 bpm.	
• Developed two distinct localization systems: a high-precision Ultra-Wideband tracking network and an optimization-based multi-view visual localization system, both achieved centimeter accuracy in real-time tracking.	
• Engineered an end-to-end multimodal ML fusion pipeline (UWB+IMU+RGB) for subject tracking and behavior monitoring.	
• Designed a distributed data ingestion pipeline for 9 sensor modalities, automating temporal synchronization (drift < 10ms) and annotation validation for 213k bounding boxes, published as the MmCows benchmark at NeurIPS 2024.	
Graduate Research Assistant – WISEST Lab, UW-Madison – Madison, WI	Aug 2021 – Jul 2024
• Developed eTag, an energy-neutral sensing system using backscatter communication, published at ACM MobiCom 2023.	
• Designed a novel shared-coil architecture for simultaneous RFID communication and wireless charging in wearable devices, mitigating the mutual coupling problem while reducing footprint by 30% compared to standard dual-coil designs.	
• Developed energy-efficient firmware for RFID scanning using STM32-based LoRa SoC that reduced the energy cost by 15x, and engineered a closed-loop wireless power transfer protocol for autonomous charging of wearable devices.	
Research Assistant – EC Lab, Soongsil University – Seoul, South Korea	Mar 2019 – Jul 2021
• Designed a flexible, portable supercapacitor-based conformal wearable battery using cascade multiphase buck converter that delivers 840W in 5-second pulses, optimizing energy density and form factor for rapid and critical military applications.	
• Developed a novel bidirectional buck-boost control policy that enables uninterrupted power delivery and continuous system operation under dynamic load conditions, surpassing system design specs required for technology transfer.	
• Designed a high-speed FPGA-based flash storage system with 512GB SLC-NAND using Altium Designer, minimizing propagation delay and ensuring signal integrity across 1,000+ components.	
• Implemented Extended Kalman Filter on a RISC-V MCU to process 9-DOF IMU data for precise pose tracking in AR/VR apps.	
System Engineer – Interland Inc. – Hanoi, Vietnam	Jun 2018 – Feb 2019
• Investigated sensing solutions for measuring dissolved oxygen in water, and integrated with IBM-based cloud service for large-scale automated shrimp farming.	

PROJECT LEADERSHIP

- Led the full-lifecycle development of the conformal wearable battery, delivering a production-grade system that passed rigorous DoD testing and achieved successful technology transfer to DoD contractor.
- Recruited and trained a team of 20+ people to curate the MmCows large-scale multimodal dataset (20k annotated out of 4.8M RGB images) while ensuring data synchronization and annotation accuracy.
- Led a cross-discipline team to design and deploy eTag as a multi-node IoT network on multiple production cattle, analyzing over 2,000 hours of field data to validate system reliability in complex operational settings.