Instead of attaching a resume to your email, the best way to promote yourself is to make a **web page** that describes yourself and highlights your skills, and then include the URL for that web page in the email. If you email me this URL and use the appropriate subject line, then I will look at your web page. If you are a PhD applicant, then I will certainly consider you for financial aid decisions that are made in the Spring.

## How to increase your chances?

- Apply for fellowships such as MIT Fellowships, NSF, Scholarships or Legatum
- Create a portfolio and host it on your webpage. Please actively demonstrate your research, ability to
  build systems and clearly highlight your achievements. Include your papers, projects (with photos and
  figures), interests, achievements and anything that shows off your character, and send the URL. Also
  include it in your MIT application.
- Read our webpage very carefully to understand our projects and research interests. If you are applying blindly without understanding our work it may negatively affect the outcome of your application to our group. On the other hand you could greatly improve your chances if you carefully read our webpage and some papers, make sure you understand our research and have some creative ideas on how to improve the existing research or an idea for a new project. Make sure you include this in your application/email.
- Try to engage in research program at MIT Media Lab. Do a UROP in Media Lab
- Visit in person if possible for interview or try to meet at one of the <u>upcoming conferences</u>

## What should you emphasize in your webpage or email?

- Make sure you highlight your Math and Signal Processing background, System building experience,
   Crazy projects, Internships, <u>English communication</u>
- Suggest how you may fit into our group but don't try to fit in too hard because there are always upcoming areas that are not listed yet. Our research interests are constantly evolving.
- Finally we are looking for a diverse background; weakness in one area maybe overcome with stellar achievements in other fields. We want to make sure you will be a good fit. Surprise us!
- You must include the words [Prospective Student] in the subject line of your email to indicate you have read this page.