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NSF RINGS Grant Awarded

The Doctor is Almost In

Industrial Affiliate Events

# Pulse

# 6G





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*NYU WIRELESS is a vibrant academic research center pushing the boundaries of wireless communications, sensing, networking, and devices.*

Centered at NYU Tandon School of Engineering and involving leaders from industry, faculty, and students throughout the entire NYU community, NYU WIRELESS offers its Industrial Affiliates, students, and faculty members a world-class research environment that is creating fundamental knowledge, theories, and techniques for future mass-deployable wireless devices in a wide range of applications and markets.

Every January, NYU WIRELESS hosts an annual Open House for all of its students and Industrial Affiliate Members, followed by the prestigious invitation-only Brooklyn 6G summit (B6GS.com), in cooperation with Nokia Bell Laboratories, for the center's Industrial Affiliates and thought leaders throughout the global telecommunications industry. This year the Summit will be held on October 24-27, 2022, followed by the second NYU WIRELESS Workshop on October 27 & 28.

**NYU WIRELESS**, [info@nyuwireless.com](mailto:info@nyuwireless.com)

**Leadership** Founding Director Ted Rappaport, Director Thomas L. Marzetta, and Associate Directors Sundeep Rangan, John-Ross Rizzo, and Dennis Shasha manage NYU WIRELESS across Brooklyn and Manhattan campuses of NYU. Rappaport has powered the 5G millimeter wave era and is a leading educator in the wireless arena, having authored many books and started two companies and three major academic wireless research centers. Rangan is an Electrical Engineering Professor at NYU Tandon and was a co-founder of Flarion Technologies, which developed Flash-OFDM, one of the first cellular OFDM data systems. Marzetta originated the concept of Massive MIMO and seeks ten-fold improvements over Massive MIMO through a closer union of wave propagation physics and communication theory. Rizzo is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Rehabilitation Medicine and Neurology at NYU Langone Health. His research is focused on wearable technology and blindness and visual impairment. Shasha of Courant's Computer Science Department is widely known for his expertise in data-intensive algorithms and streaming data and is a highly acclaimed inventor of mathematical puzzles.

**The Industrial Affiliates Program** NYU WIRELESS invites global companies to join our Industrial Affiliates program. The program offers instant access to cutting-edge research results and talented students in a mutually beneficial relationship among NYU WIRELESS researchers, students, facilities, and leading industry partners. NYU WIRELESS would like to thank our Industrial Affiliate Partners as well as NSF, NIH, and DOD for their continued support. Learn more about our Industrial Affiliates program by visiting [nyuwireless.com/industrial-affiliates](http://nyuwireless.com/industrial-affiliates).

**About the cover** Sapna Parikh, M.D., M.P.H., is Assistant Director of Visual Storytelling in NYU's University Relations & Public Affairs Department. She is the producer, host, and editor of the research-focused Brainiacs video series, which you can read more about on page 13.



# The Impact of Undirected Research

In 2014 I was privileged to take part in the Marconi Society symposium in honor of Stanford University Professor Emeritus Arogyaswami Paulraj. While at the meeting I remember paying particular attention to the words of then FCC Commissioner (now Chairwoman) Jessica Rosenworcel:

“What if we issued a challenge in Washington? Think of it as Race to the Top, the Spectrum Edition. Imagine that we decided to reward the first person who finds a way to make spectrum use below 5 GHz fifty or a hundred times more efficient over the next decade. The reward could be something simple—say 10 megahertz of spectrum suitable for mobile broadband.”

Eight years have passed since then, and 5G Massive MIMO has proven that it can deliver as much as ten times the spectral efficiency of 4G technology. Should Massive MIMO ever be

adopted for fixed access, I am confident that we could attain Rosenworcel’s goal of making spectrum use fifty times more efficient. One-hundred-twenty-degree sector antennas are going the way of the spark transmitter, replaced by marvelously compact 64- and 128-active-element arrays. Last year, service providers paid \$81 billion for 280 MHz of C-band spectrum (\$289/Hz!). Massive MIMO multiplies the value of this investment ten-fold. This technological revolution could not have happened without a huge investment by industry and the combined efforts of thousands of engineers. But the concept of Massive MIMO was entirely the product of undirected fundamental research.

I originated the concept of Massive MIMO in 2006 while working in the Mathematical Sciences Research Center of Bell Labs [T. L. Marzetta, “How much training is required for multiuser MIMO?,” *40th Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers*]. Even within Bell Labs, the freedom enjoyed by Math Center researchers was considered extraordinary. Regrettably, support for undirected research is increasingly difficult to obtain. Here at NYU WIRELESS, however, we are supremely fortunate to have the backing of our Industrial Affiliate Members, which enables our professors and students to depart from conventional thinking and to undertake bold and risky research. With this continuing support combined with our outside-the-box creative thinking, we look forward to being the discoverers of the next breakthroughs in wireless communications! 📶



**Thomas L. Marzetta**  
Director, NYU WIRELESS

## NYU WIRELESS Newsletter

Download and read previous issues of Pulse online by visiting  
[nyuwireless.com/nyu-wireless-newsletter](https://nyuwireless.com/nyu-wireless-newsletter)



# NYU WIRELESS Team among NYU Tandon Researchers Awarded \$2.5 Million NSF RINGS Grant

Lightning-fast, low-latency wireless, from 5G to 6G and beyond, will improve such services as virtual and augmented reality streaming, near-zero latency vehicle-to-cloud communications to help self-driving cars navigate in real time, remote surgery, coordination of automated systems in factories and other facilities, and a myriad of other futuristic consumer applications.

But these benefits come at a cost: Advances in wireless technology will potentially open a Pandora's box of security vulnerabilities in the hardware serving as its backbone and the software driving its networks.

A new National Science Foundation (NSF) initiative has awarded three teams of researchers from the NYU Tandon School of Engineering a combined \$2.5 million to confront these challenges head on. Participating in the research, which is supported by NSF's Resilient and Intelligent Next Generation Systems (RINGS) partnership, are NYU WIRELESS' Elza Erkip, Siddharth Garg, Yong Liu, Pei Liu, Shiv Panwar, and Sundeeep Rangan. Other NYU Tandon professors from the NYU Center for Cybersecurity and the New York State Center for Advanced Technology in Telecommunications (CATT) are Zhong-Ping Jiang, Farshad Khorrami, and Ramesh Karri. Shiv is also director of CATT, which is sponsored by New York State's Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology, and Innovation.

Together, the teams will focus on making current and future wireless infrastructure, software, and hardware systems more resilient to flaws, accidents, subterfuge, and hacks. RINGS is a

public-private partnership focused on accelerating research to increase the competitiveness of the United States in networking and computing technologies and to ensure the security and resilience of NextG technologies and infrastructure. The partnership includes NYU WIRELESS Industrial Affiliates Ericsson, Nokia, and Qualcomm, as well as Apple, Google, IBM, Intel, Microsoft, and VMware. Government partners include the U.S. Department of Defense's Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Of the RINGS partnership grants awarded to 37 institutions, NYU Tandon was one of only three to receive a trio of them.

U.S. Senator Charles Schumer praised the Tandon teams, noting that "Future generations of wireless communications will enhance our ability to democratize information sharing, but it's important these future services are secure to protect our infrastructure, individuals, and their transactions. I am proud to support the researchers at the NYU Tandon School of Engineering and the three RINGS grants they received from the National Science Foundation

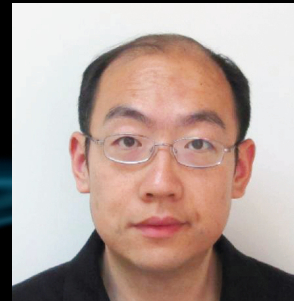




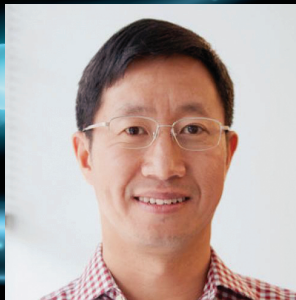
**Elza Erkip**  
Institute Professor, ECE



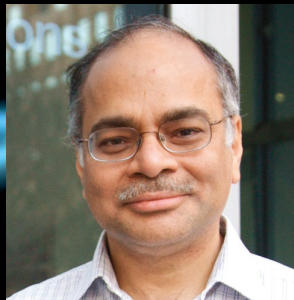
**Siddharth Garg**  
Associate Professor, ECE



**Pel Llu**  
Research Scientist, ECE



**Yong Llu**  
Associate Professor, ECE



**Shrivendra Panwar**  
Professor, ECE



**Sundeep Rangan**  
Associate Director, ECE

to ensure a safe and secure transition from the current generation of wireless communications.”

Explained Sundeep, “Broadly speaking, to ‘harden’ next-generation telecommunications, we are seeking to understand and rethink the design of wireless networks from the physical layer—the foundational hardware of telecommunications networks—up to the application level.” He continued, “Advanced wireless systems and protocols are increasingly critical to the national economy and resilience and resistance to attack are key to protecting vital investments already made and that are continuing to be made.”

The project from the Center for Cybersecurity focuses on building next-generation resilient wireless systems from unsecure hardware. The researchers are looking into ways of flagging so-called hardware Trojans. These are malicious additions to hardware components supplied by a third party in order to launch an attack from within a network node, such as a cellular base station. Once triggered, these attacks can degrade or disable service, transmit signals to disrupt other nodes, or snoop or leak sensitive data.

Among the research team’s objectives are estimating the capacity of undetected hardware attacks and optimizing the power and computation devoted to hardware verification. They will apply these methods to networks, making it easier to detect jamming and multi-user attacks. The researchers are also developing a novel and powerful evaluation platform to experiment with hardware security methods at different regions of the radio spectrum.

According to Ramesh, Co-Chair of NYU Center for Cybersecurity, his project will explore attackers’ and defenders’ use of analog side channels unique to 5G, including radio frequencies in the millimeter-wave spectrum, side-by-side computer system timing information, power consumption, and digital side channels. The defenses will be evaluated on a 5G software-defined radio through the use of crowdsourcing as part of NYU Tandon’s 2022 CSAW Embedded Security Challenge.

“There is growing interest in the resilience and security of 5G,” added Shiv. “NYU Tandon, home to the Center for Cybersecurity, CATT, and NYU WIRELESS, is in a great position to work at this intersection of security and wireless



to secure the current and next generation of telecommunications.”

Another project aims to advance data modeling with the goal of enabling resilient edge networks with data-driven model-based learning. Computational wireless systems enable secure, robust, and high-performance applications in education, business, transportation, healthcare, entertainment, and more. Edge networks, where computation and data storage capabilities are as close as possible to the source of a request, are key to their success.

Of the RINGS partnership grants awarded to 37 institutions, NYU Tandon was one of only three to receive a trio of them.

The investigators will address vulnerabilities that could affect the availability, reliability, and resiliency of edge networks. These include both expected resource and demand variations (such as diurnal application traffic patterns, user mobility, and random link/node failures), unexpected shifts of operating conditions (such as traffic flash-crowds triggered by emerging events), and major infrastructure failures after coordinated malicious attacks and natural disasters.

Together with Andreas Molisch of the University of Southern California, Elza is the co-principal investigator on a project to enable resilient delivery of real-time interactive services

over NextG computer-dense mobile networks. Their research takes a hard look at real-time interactive services (RTIs), a technology at the intersection of sensing, computation, and communications. Traditionally, these systems are not optimized to work with each other, particularly not in real-time, constraining the type of services that they can enable.

RTIs require real-time aggregation of distributed data streams onto edge/cloud computer servers that can process data as soon as it is generated. To make this possible, the investigators will develop a mathematical framework and algorithms to provide such RTIs with guaranteed latencies.

“The results will benefit the U.S. economy by enabling more efficient, more reliable, and more resilient automation schemes—for example for smart factories and farms—as well as improved augmented/virtual reality,” said Elza.

As part of the projects, the teams will engage local citizen scientists to create educational opportunities around the research and will disseminate the results and data to the wider community through workshops. In addition, the principal investigators teach security and wireless classes at NYU and will integrate the research and experiments into their classes and class projects.

“Our project will include a robust plan for outreach to students from underrepresented groups,” Elza added. “The interdisciplinary nature of the research will benefit participating students.” Congratulations to all the grant recipients! 🍷

## SAVE THE DATES

### Brooklyn 6G Summit

In-person event: October 24–27, 2022

For more information, visit [B6GS.com](https://B6GS.com)

### NYU WIRELESS Board Meeting

In-person event: October 24, 2022

### NYU WIRELESS Workshop: Re-Inventing the Physical Layer

Invitation only; October 27–28, 2022



# Faculty News



**Elza Erkip**  
Institute Professor, ECE

## Elza Erkip Receives Armstrong Award

Professor Elza Erkip was honored by the IEEE Communications Society, which on December 8, 2021, presented her with the prestigious Edwin Howard Armstrong Achievement Award in recognition of her pioneering work in cooperative communications and relay networks. She is only the third woman to receive this distinction. Users of smart phones and IoT devices may not be aware of the kinds of advances made possible by Elza's groundbreaking research in information theory, but cooperative networking, for example, greatly increases the reliability and speed of wireless networks, resulting in faster downloads and better coverage. Her revolutionary work thus helped lay the foundation for the 5G service now being widely commercialized, as well as the possibilities for 6G currently being explored.



**Thomas L. Marzetta**  
Director, NYU WIRELESS



**Henry Bertoni**  
Professor Emeritus, ECE

## Highly Cited Researchers

NYU WIRELESS Director Tom Marzetta and Founding Director Ted Rappaport were joined by Professor Elza Erkip on Clarivate's 2021 list of Highly Cited Researchers. Individuals who have received this honor have published multiple papers over the past decade that consistently rank in the top one percent by citations in their field. Experts from the Institute for Scientific Information at the Web of Science Group, which is part of Clarivate Analytics, determine who is included in this influential group.



**Farokh Atashzar**  
Assistant Professor, ECE

## Ted Rappaport Named Innovator of the Year

NYU WIRELESS Founding Director Ted Rappaport was honored by the Tesla Science Center as its 2021 Innovator of the Year. The Center noted that Ted "embodies the spirit of



**Theodore Rappaport**  
Founding Director,  
NYU WIRELESS

Nikola Tesla's legacy of advancing technology for humanity."


The award was presented on November 19, 2021, during a virtual gala, "World Gone Wireless," which featured animated video together with taped footage of guests. Among those who offered tributes was Vincent Cerf, known as a "Father of the Internet," who was a previous recipient of the award. He praised Ted for being "way ahead of his time." A number of Ted's colleagues, mentors, students, and friends provided moving video tributes that acknowledged his many contributions to the field.

In addition, Ted was ranked No. 15 among U.S. scientists in electronics and electrical engineering and No. 27 globally, according to the website Research.com, which evaluates authors based on their H-index. This index uses the number of published papers and citations to determine a scientist's ranking.

## EurAAP Propagation Award

Professor Emeritus Henry Bertoni was awarded the EurAAP Propagation Award in March 2022 by the European Conference on Antennas & Propagation. He received the award for the development of propagation prediction models used for the design of cellular networks.

## NSF Award to Help Stop Pandemics

Assistant Professor Farokh Atashzar received a National Science Foundation award to develop novel computational network modeling to help mitigate the spread of pandemics such as COVID-19. He will be conducting his research together with colleagues at Northeastern University. His grant is titled "Modeling and Control of Non-Passive Networks with Distributed Time-Delays: Application in Epidemic Control." 

# Mini-Circuits Hosts Pioneering 6G Researchers

Deployment of 5G commercial wireless networks is well underway. Mini-Circuits, a New York-based RF and microwave technology leader, supplies a wide range of components to 5G hardware developers for testing and system use, but the real buzz on the floor of the company's Brooklyn lab has already moved on to 6G.

On January 10, 2022, Mini-Circuits welcomed graduate researchers from NYU WIRELESS to its facilities as part of its efforts to pave the way for the next great revolution in wireless communications. Still about a decade away from deployment, much about 6G wireless technologies remains to be defined, but at a high level 6G will build on previous technologies to allow even greater bandwidth, lower latency, and more unprecedented applications than is possible with 5G networks. Ultimately, 6G will enable the

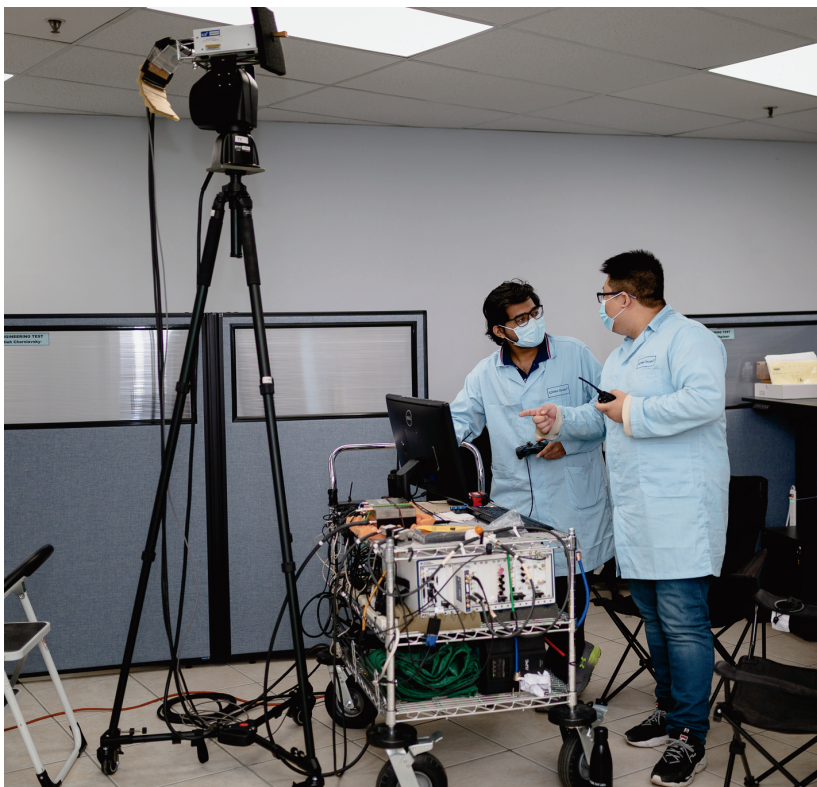
"unification of our experience across the physical, digital, and human world," according to Harish Viswanathan, NYU WIRELESS Industrial Affiliate Nokia Bell Labs Head of Radio Systems Research.

Shihao Ju, a third-year Ph.D. student at NYU WIRELESS, is one of five researchers from Professor Ted Rappaport's student group collecting radio propagation measurement data at Mini-Circuits' Neptune Avenue test labs in Brooklyn and in its warehouse facility in Deer Park, Long Island. He and his fellow Ph.D. candidates Yunchou Xing (recently graduated and now with Nokia Bell Labs), Ojas Kanhere, Dipankar Shakya, and Hitesh Poddar comprise a research team dedicated to measuring and modelling the propagation characteristics of ultra-wideband signals at 142 GHz.

"We're trying to develop the first general spatial statistical channel model for frequencies above 100 GHz for various environments," said Shihao. "Before this, we were doing measurements in office buildings and outdoor urban street canyons. Now we're doing it for industrial scenarios for future 6G-enabled smart factories."

Channel models allow the engineers designing the wireless infrastructure to accurately simulate how signals behave in real-world environments, from inside buildings to urban streets, and even thinly settled rural expanses. Wireless standardization bodies such as 3GPP and IEEE 802.11 must agree on a single accepted channel model before companies can submit proposals for commercial development. The researchers'

Researchers from NYU WIRELESS set up equipment to gather measurements of Sub-THz signals. Shown (l. to r.) are Hitesh Poddar and Yunchou Xing.





work will be foundational to the standards that eventually come together as 6G evolves from concept to reality.

Capturing signal propagation behaviors and channel statistics in real-world factory and warehouse spaces is particularly important to opening up the cloud computing and automation capabilities needed to realize smart factories and industry 4.0. Manufacturing environments are often crowded with physical obstructions and electromagnetic interference from other machinery, which makes understanding signal behavior anything but straightforward.

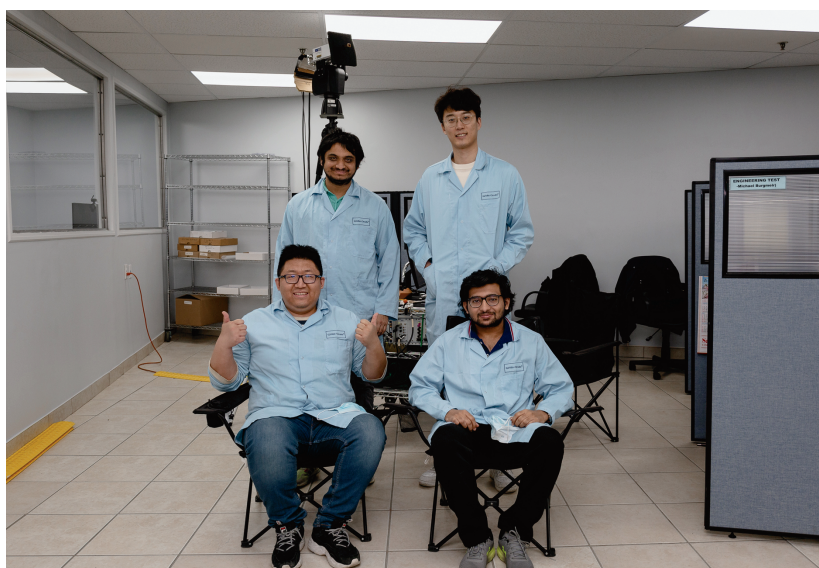
“Signals propagating in any environment will get reflected, scattered, or penetrate walls,” explained Shihao. “That’s going to create multi-path components more than a mere line-of-sight, single path. Here, we can derive a faithful channel model based on the measured multi-path data to provide a more realistic analysis of all different wireless system design problems.”

Mini-Circuits President, Ted Heil, first learned of the work the research team was doing at the Brooklyn 6G Summit, which is hosted annually

“We’re trying to develop the first general spatial statistical channel model for frequencies above 100 GHz for various environments.”

by Nokia and NYU WIRELESS at the Tandon campus. He approached Professor Ted Rappaport and offered to make Mini-Circuits’ facilities available as a test bed for his team. As one of the few companies maintaining industrial-scale manufacturing operations in the NYC area, it was a unique opportunity to collect much-needed data close to home.

The channel model that comes out of this effort will be the first of its kind. Shihao explained that models of this scope have been developed for lower frequencies, but at the frontiers of the Sub-THz spectral region, most measurements previously collected were done at low power over distances of only a few meters. The NYU



team’s model will incorporate measurements at large scale up to 50 meters in the full range of environments that encompass real-world operating conditions.

Mini-Circuits has long been dedicated to fostering collaboration between academia and the RF/microwave industry, but this may be the first time one such collaboration will be instrumental to active research shaping the future of wireless communications. As you start to hear more about how 5G and 6G are powering smart factories and transforming industry as we know it, think about how this small team of NYU WIRELESS researchers and a global technology company in Brooklyn helped pioneer the research that made it all possible. 

Top: The channel sounder used in the measurement experiments.

Bottom: The NYU research team of Professor Rappaport at Mini-Circuits’ Neptune Avenue facility in Brooklyn. Shown standing (l. to r.) are Ojas Kanhere and Shihao Ju; sitting (l. to r.) are Yunchou Xing and Hitesh Poddar.

*Article adapted and reprinted courtesy of Mini-Circuits.*

# The Doctor is Almost In

NYU Tandon's Medical Robotics and Interactive Intelligent Technologies lab (MERIIT), which conducts research on human-centered robotics, human-machine interface, and human-AI collaboration, recently received a major equipment donation from the Intuitive Foundation: a da Vinci Research Kit (dVRK).

NYU WIRELESS Assistant Professor Farokh Atashzar holds a high definition stereo camera that provides 3D depth perception at the surgeon's console (behind him) and a "six degrees of freedom" surgical tool that is inserted into the patient in the operating room.

The kit, an open-sourced version of the classic da Vinci Surgical System manufactured by Intuitive Surgical Inc., comprises the surgeon's side robotic console with two robotic arms and a 3D video display; a stereo-vision camera system and surgical endoscope; and a two-arm patient's side robotic console. As of August, the dVRK was in the process of being installed.

The da Vinci Surgical System is a leader-follower teleoperated robotic system that is operated on local networks, with the surgeon positioned feet away from the patient, in the same (or an adjacent) room. Advances in telecommunications from 5G and 6G and beyond offer the tantalizing prospect that procedures could one day be performed by a surgeon who

is miles away from the operating theater, or even in another part of the world.

The Intuitive Foundation's donation will allow MERIIT to implement, mobilize, and evaluate outcomes, algorithms, and intelligent architectures in the area of telerobotic surgery, helping to democratize access to the technology and skilled practice.

The MERIIT lab, led by NYU WIRELESS Assistant Professor Farokh Atashzar, aims not only to remove the barrier of distance between skilled surgeons and patients, but to develop haptic interfaces that will enable the surgeon, however far away he or she may be from the operating theater, to physically perceive the smallest forces applied on the tissue during a remote and delicate operation. MERIIT's work is just one example of the state-of-the-art robotic research being conducted at NYU Tandon.

Farokh explained that remote telesurgery is closer to reality than many people may think, given the emergence of wireless networks with ultra-low latency and ultra-high reliability. "This technology could create more access to surgical specialists," Farokh said. "The best surgeon for a given procedure, who happens to be in California, could conceivably operate on a patient in New York. That means areas with limited access to healthcare could have access to specialized surgical procedures, and it also creates options for treatment in dangerous areas, battlefields, or even in space, if the surgeon is Earthbound."

Additionally, he pointed out, multimodal tele-robotics can also be used to physically separate surgeons and patients during a critical health crisis such as a pandemic like COVID-19, in order to minimize the possibility of infection transmission.





The MERIT lab's research using the donated system has three major pillars:

- MERIT researchers will conduct cutting-edge research on surgical autonomy and shared autonomy, using the parts of the operation that can be shared between local machines and remote surgeons. This will be achieved using advanced robot learning algorithms and artificial intelligence being developed at MERIT.
- Researchers will develop novel fundamental algorithms that maximize the transparency, perception, and stability of telerobotic surgical systems, in the presence of communication latency, jitter, and packet loss. The team will develop nonlinear controllers to stabilize the networked leader-follower robotic systems. They will also generate artificial intelligence that can compensate for the effect of degradations in QoS through adaptive computational modeling.
- Researchers will develop multi-agent networked robotic systems to enable virtualized hand-over-hand training for novice surgeons under the guidance of an expert through shared virtual reality and telecommunication between multiple robots.

Farokh said the goal of autonomous surgical systems is to improve the performance of remote human operators, at least initially. "We want to keep the surgeon in the loop, but with the goal of enabling different levels of shared autonomy between human and machine intelligence," he explained.

One of the challenges of remote telesurgery that Farokh is most interested in tackling is "taking the next fundamental steps in telerobotic surgery by enabling 'Remote Tactile Intelligence.' This would require a combination of remote tactile rendering, remote sensing, tactile internet, and cloud computing for partially automated surgeries and reducing the current sensitivity to QoS (quality of service)." Farokh further noted, "Telerobotics has augmented the 'manipulability' and 'maneuverability' competence of surgeons. However, commercial examples of surgical robots block surgeons from 'feeling' their way




with haptics. Despite the existing evidence on the significance of haptics in surgery, commercial systems are yet to deliver haptics due to several technical challenges."

Technical challenges include ensuring perceptual causality, safety, reliability, stability, and rendering fidelity (i.e., transparency), which are all susceptible to inevitable network latency and in general discrepancy in the quality of network service. Meanwhile, networked robotic systems could make possible such pedagogical scenarios as surgical training in which an experienced

This researcher is using a state-of-the-art 64-channel electroencephalographic (EEG) machine to scan brain activities in real time and transmit the data wirelessly to a computer controlling the robot.

Advances in telecommunications from 5G and 6G and beyond offer the tantalizing prospect that procedures could one day be performed by a surgeon who is miles away from the operating theater, or even in another part of the world.

surgeon uses such systems to simultaneously teach multiple students who are physically in different locations. Conceivably, novice surgeons could "all be working under the guidance of one expert surgeon performing a virtually/physically simulated surgery, from any location," Farokh said. 



# Industrial Affiliate Events: One Key to a Great Relationship

Our Industrial Affiliates are among NYU WIRELESS' greatest assets. We rely on the feedback of these supportive companies to help shape our programs, and we pride ourselves on providing them with valuable information that advances the industry. Our events this year have been planned with these goals in mind.

## Open House

Our 2022 Virtual Open House in January included more than 35 Industrial Affiliates and a comparable number of NYU WIRELESS faculty members and students. As in past years, the Open House facilitated connections between students seeking internships or full-time positions and Industrial Affiliates recruiting highly qualified individuals for roles at their companies. To familiarize Industrial Affiliates with the skills and projects of our students, each student prepared a one-minute video explaining his or her research. The students later made themselves available to discuss their work in greater detail with interested Industrial Affiliates.

Among the impressive work presented was a poster by Ozlem Yildiz and Abbas Khalili, who

are supervised by Professor Elza Erkip. Their research focused on noiseless interactive hybrid beam alignment in an uplink single user scenario, where the channel between the user and the base station consisted of multiple paths. The team's future work will include addressing optimized beam alignment methods for noisy systems.

Another project—presented by Lifan Mei, Jinrui Gou, Yujin Cai, and Houwei Cao, students of Professor Yong Liu—studied the effects of realtime mobile bandwidth and handoff predictions in 4G/5G networks. They explained that for bandwidth-demanding apps such as video conferencing, accurate bandwidth prediction can lead to better quality of experience for users. In co-existing 4G and 5G networks, the group proposed a solution for predicting handoffs between 4G and 5G, which is important for high-bandwidth and low-latency applications in these co-existing networks.

## Board Meeting

Our virtual NYU WIRELESS board meeting brought our Industrial Affiliates and faculty members together to share research news and other updates. Held on April 26, 2022, the half-day session provided an important touchpoint for the Affiliates and NYU WIRELESS to stay

NYU WIRELESS researchers testing an advanced wearable device for visually impaired pedestrians (l. to r.): Postdoctoral Associate Alain Boldini, Professor Yao Wang, and Professor J.R. Rizzo.





connected. We also rely on our Affiliates for input regarding current and future research directions and areas on which they would like to focus.

We invite our Industrial Affiliates to access this information and more at the Affiliate portal on [NYUWIRELESS.com](https://nyuwireless.com).


## NYU WIRELESS Workshop

Among the highlights of 2021 for NYU WIRELESS was the inaugural NYU WIRELESS Workshop, held virtually on October 28, 2021. The intent of this workshop is to bring the foremost wireless researchers together for a free exchange of ideas. A limited-attendance invitation-only event, the workshop was focused on a specific research theme, “Re-Inventing the Physical Layer.” The first workshop was organized by Tom Marzetta and Elza Erkip of NYU WIRELESS, Liesbet Van der Perre of KU Leuven, Belgium, and Petar Popovski of Aalborg University, Denmark. The half-day event consisted of two provocative panels, “Are Ever Higher Carrier Frequencies a Safe Bet?” and “Who Will Create the Next Wireless Generations: Turning, or Maxwell and Shannon?”

The second annual workshop will be a live event in Brooklyn on October 27–28, 2022, with the same theme as the first workshop, but with additional time for panels, keynotes, posters, and informal discussion. As a new membership benefit, NYU WIRELESS Industrial Affiliates are each invited to select two participants.

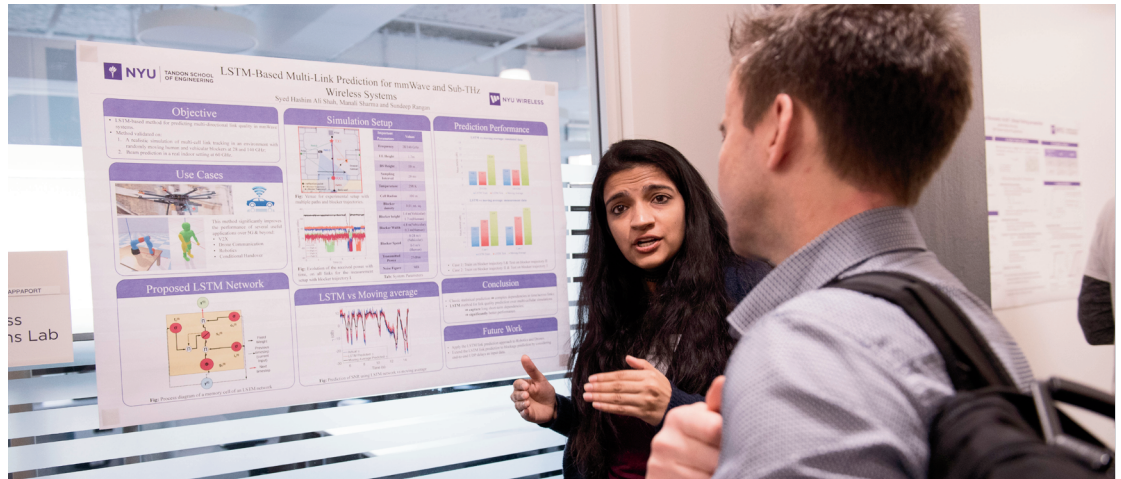
## Brooklyn 6G Summit

“Path Towards a Sustainable 6G World” was the theme of this year’s Brooklyn 6G Summit, which offered insights into how a 6G system can be designed from the onset with sustainability in mind. Presented on April 27, 2022, by NYU WIRELESS and Nokia, the virtual conference featured a keynote talk by Kimberley Parsons Trommler, head of Thinknet 6G at Bayern Innovativ. She discussed the United Nations’ sustainable development goals for 6G, digital responsibility goals, and commitments from the wireless industry to develop a sustainable 6G network. Other speakers included John Smee from Qualcomm, who explained how the next generation of device capabilities will drive the needs-identification of how to scale sustainability. Balazs Bertenyi, Principal Standardization Architect at Nokia, kicked off the main discussion by considering the climate impact of mobile technology in an increasingly complex world. In addition to other notable speakers, Professor Ted Rappaport from NYU WIRELESS discussed “Power Consumption and Efficiency in mmWave and Sub-THz Systems and Networks.” Among Summit highlights was Ted’s Fireside Chat with former FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler, who received the Pioneer Award for his impactful work in the telecommunications industry over the past four decades.

A recording of the Summit can be accessed at [ieeetv.ieee.org/event/2022-brooklyn-6g-summit](https://ieeetv.ieee.org/event/2022-brooklyn-6g-summit). 



# Diversity and Inclusion for Women at NYU Tandon School of Engineering




NYU WIRELESS, like the entirety of NYU Tandon School of Engineering, prides itself on an inclusive culture, regarding it as the guiding principle in its policies and day-to-day interactions. From student admissions to faculty recruitment to speaker engagements, we firmly believe that gender and cultural diversity enhance scientific creativity and productivity. To this end, Tandon School of Engineering has increased its efforts to support its women students in multiple and meaningful ways. This is exemplified by the introduction of a minor in Feminism and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (FSTEM), a plan to open a Women in STEM Center at Tandon, and Dean Jelena Kovačević's commitment to building and nurturing a diverse and inclusive community.

Seven years ago, the Women @ Tandon committee (W@T) was founded to help address the issue of gender inequality. In the ensuing years, W@T has thrived, establishing an Alumnae Advisory Council Student Engagement Scholarship Fund. Programming includes lunchtime talks and Empower Hours, as well as the formation of We for She, a group for male allies. In addition, the Inclusion @ Tandon committee and

the Office of Inclusive Excellence were created. There are also a number of clubs for female students to find peer support, including Girls Who Code, Society of Women Engineers, STEMinst, and Women in Business and Entrepreneurship.

Every year NYU Tandon hosts a Women in STEM summit, and in 2020 NYU Tandon's Department of Computer Science and Engineering received a National Center for Women and Information Technology Extension Services (NEXT) Award for its efforts to double the number of women in computer science, a goal they far exceeded. This success was not limited only to the CSE department: The Tandon Class of 2022 is made up of 43% women—roughly double the national average for engineering schools.

More generally, kudos to NYU Tandon for rising to Number 33 in the ranking of graduate engineering schools compiled by *U.S. News & World Report*. This achievement, which reflects the surpassing of forty-seven schools over the last fifteen years, can be attributed to the quality of our faculty and student research, the caliber of our public and private-sector collaborations, innovative multi-disciplinary teams, and increased community engagement. 

Tandon's  
Class of 2022 is

**43% women,**

roughly double  
the national average  
for engineering  
schools.




# Goodbye 3G

In the early months of 2022, major wireless carriers began phasing out 3G wireless networks across the United States in order to make room for 4G and 5G networks. This is not the first time a network has been sunsetted: Most 2G networks were shut down by 2017.

Companies are moving away from 3G after a relatively short time (only eighteen years vs. 2G's approximately thirty years) because bandwidth is valuable, and it's crucial to free up as much as possible to accommodate future 5G deployment. Any frequencies that can be cleared by sunseting 3G can be directed toward those needs.

There has been some concern about the retirement of 3G, as there are still people using older cell phones that run on 3G, and many cars


rely on 3G networks for navigation and location data, emergency calls, remote lock functions, and more. However, Professor Sundeep Rangan, Associate Director of NYU WIRELESS, is not concerned. When interviewed about the upcoming changes by news outlets *IEEE Spectrum* and *Vox*, he explained that while 3G is going away, it won't disappear overnight. Sunsetting a wireless network takes time, he said, as it requires going site by site to each cell tower to shut off the relevant equipment.

"Operators are spending a lot of money for the spectrum," Sundeep explained in an article in *Vox*. "Those operators, for that amount of spectrum, want to send as much data, or serve as many users, as possible." 

# Brainiacs Explain 6G



NYU's inventive Brainiacs recently produced an episode that focuses on 6G research underway at NYU WIRELESS. Now available for viewing on YouTube, the short video—which features NYU WIRELESS professors Sundeep Rangan, JR Rizzo, and Ludovic Righetti together with Brainiacs visual storyteller Sapna Parikh—describes a few of the many exciting advances we can look forward to in the next decade. The

professors explain how 6G's faster data transfers with less delay will translate into real-world applications such as devices to help the visually impaired navigate in real time, richer virtual reality experiences, improvements to AI and robot technology, aid for individuals impacted by natural disasters, and more. Be sure to check out "Brainiacs Episode 7: What is 6G Wireless?" on YouTube to learn more. 

# Summer Internships



**Fabrizio Carpi**  
Nokia Bell Labs  
Murray Hill, NJ

NYU WIRELESS would like to thank our Industrial Affiliate Members for providing valuable work-place experience again this year through summer internships, as well as full-time career opportunities to our graduates. Each January, our Open House/Recruiting Day provides an occasion for our students to connect with top industry leaders and potential employers to learn more about the companies and available employment opportunities. Attracting top talent for internships and full-time positions at the annual Open House/Recruiting Day is just one of the many benefits of becoming an NYU WIRELESS Industrial Affiliate.

Congratulations to our graduating students and those students who had summer internships this year! 🎉



**Nikola Janjusevic**  
Apple  
Cupertino, CA



**Mustafa Ozkoc**  
Samsung Research Lab  
Plano, TX



**Syed Hashim Ali Shah**  
Qualcomm  
San Diego, CA



**Dipankar Shakya**  
Nokia Bell Labs  
Murray Hill, NJ



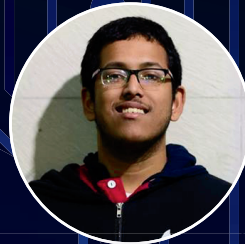
**Ashutosh Srivastava**  
Meta (Facebook)  
Redmond, WA



**Hitesh Poddar**  
Sharp Labs  
Vancouver, WA



**Ozlem Yildiz**  
Dell  
Remote



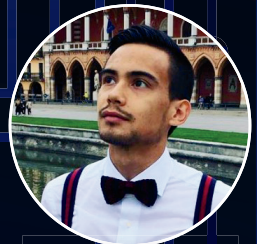
**Soumyadeep Datta**  
XCOM Labs  
San Diego, CA



**Chen Li**  
Amazon  
San Diego, CA



**Panagiotis Skrimponis**  
Samsung  
Semiconductor US  
San Jose, CA



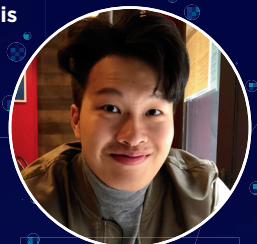
**Tommy Azzino**  
Qualcomm  
New Jersey



**Ruth Gebræmedhin**  
Nokia Bell Labs  
Remote



**Jyotish Robin**  
Samsung Research Lab  
Plano, TX



**Mingsheng Yin**  
Nokia Bell Labs  
Murray Hill, NJ



# Graduating Ph.D. Students



**Zhipeng Fan**



**Shihao Ju**  
MediaTek



**Ojas Kanhere**  
AT&T



**Amir Khalilian**  
NYU Langone  
Comprehensive  
Epilepsy Center



**Thanos Koutsaftis**



**Lifan Mei**  
AWS



**Abbas Khalili Olam**



**Ziming Qiu**



**Syed Hashim Shah**  
Qualcomm



**Calgar Tunc**  
AT&T Labs



**Yunchou Xing**  
Nokia Bell Labs

**Benjamin Ades-Aron**  
Yujin Cai  
Yixiang Mao, Apple  
Ran Wang



# NYU WIRELESS Faculty, Post-Docs, and Research Engineers



**Theodore Rappaport**  
Founding Director & David Lee/Ernst Weber Professor, ECE, CS, Medicine



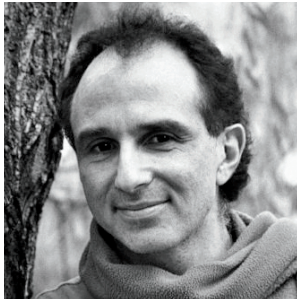
**Thomas L. Marzetta**  
Director & Distinguished Industry Professor, ECE



**Sundeep Rangan**  
Associate Director & Professor, ECE



**John-Ross Rizzo**  
Associate Director & Professor, NYU Langone Health



**Dennis Shasha**  
Associate Director & Professor, CS



**Sundar Aditya**  
Post-Doctoral Associate



**Farokh Atashzar**  
Assistant Professor



**Henry Bertoni**  
Professor Emeritus, ECE



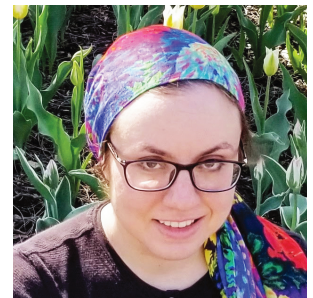
**Marwa Chafii**  
Associate Professor, ECE



**Aditya Dhananjay**  
Post-Doctoral Associate, ECE



**Elza Erkip**  
Institute Professor, ECE

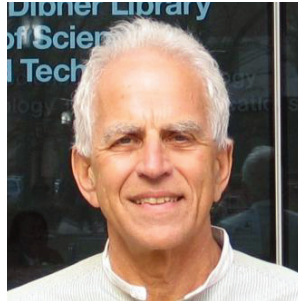


**Fraida Fund**  
Post-Doctoral Associate

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**@NYUWIRELESS**



**Siddharth Garg**  
Associate Professor, ECE



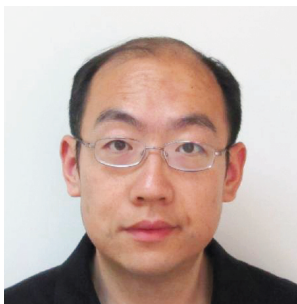
**David Goodman**  
Professor Emeritus, ECE



**Ramesh Karri**  
Professor, ECE



**Michael Knox**  
Industry Professor, ECE



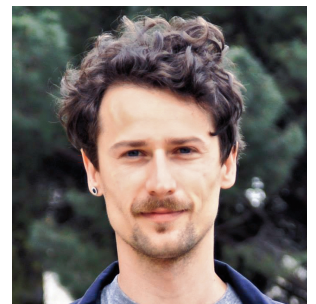
**Pei Liu**  
Research Scientist, ECE



**Yong Liu**  
Associate Professor, ECE



**Giuseppe Loianno**  
Assistant Professor



**Marco Mezzavilla**  
Research Scientist, ECE



**Shivendra Panwar**  
Professor, ECE



**Davood Shahrjerdi**  
Associate Professor, ECE



**Farhad Shirani**  
Research Assistant Professor,  
ECE



**Lakshminarayanan  
Subramanian**  
Associate Professor, CS



**Yao Wang**  
Professor, ECE & BioMed

Make **NYU WIRELESS** part of your research team.  
Contact [info@nyuwireless.com](mailto:info@nyuwireless.com)



# Welcome Marwa!

NYU WIRELESS is pleased to welcome Associate Professor Marwa Chafii, who is based in the Engineering Division in NYU Abu Dhabi. Marwa's areas of interest include advanced waveform design, machine learning for wireless communications, and indoor localization. Marwa is already becoming a vital part of NYU WIRELESS and is opening up the center to the Middle East and Asia in her first year on the NYU faculty.


Marwa received her Ph.D. in electrical engineering in 2016 and her Master's degree in the field of advanced wireless communication systems in 2013, both from CentraleSupélec (France). Between 2014 and 2016, she was a visiting researcher at Poznan University of Technology (Poland), University of York (UK), Yokohama National University (Japan), and University of Oxford (UK). In 2018 she joined the Technical University of Dresden (Germany) as a research group leader in the Vodafone Chair for Mobile Communications Systems group of Professor Gerhard Fettweis. In 2019 she became an associate professor at ENSEA (France), where she held a Chair of Excellence on Artificial Intelligence from the CY Initiative. Since September 2021, she has been an associate professor at both NYU Abu Dhabi and NYU WIRELESS at NYU Tandon School of Engineering.

She received the prize for the best Ph.D. in France in the fields of Signal, Image & Vision, and in 2020 she was recognized by N2Women as one of the "Top 10 Rising Stars in Computer Networking and Communications." Marwa served as associate editor of IEEE Communications Letters in 2019–21, where she received the Best Editor Award in 2020. Between 2018 and 2021, she was research lead at the Women in AI organization. She is currently Associate Editor at IEEE Transactions on Communications, serving as vice-chair of the IEEE ComSoc ETI on Machine Learning for Communications and leading the Education working group of the IEEE ComSoc ETI on Integrated Sensing and Communications.



"I am extremely excited to join NYU WIRELESS and work with academic and industrial leaders to develop cutting-edge research on the next generations of wireless communication systems."

Marwa recently discussed her current role: "I am extremely excited to join NYU WIRELESS and work with academic and industrial leaders to develop cutting-edge research on the next generations of wireless communication systems. Through my role in NYU Abu Dhabi, we are working closely with NYU WIRELESS on starting a wireless research center in Abu Dhabi, leveraging the synergy between both campuses to make a strong impact in the telecommunications sector locally and globally. As the first faculty member in wireless joining NYUAD, I am very eager to be part of this unique adventure." As she explained further, "I have already started building my new research group, and five talented researchers have already joined me. We are working together with NYU WIRELESS faculty and students, supported by our Industrial Affiliates, toward the development and deployment of the next generations of wireless systems."

Please join us in welcoming Marwa to NYU WIRELESS. 



# NYU WIRELESS

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June 2021–June 2022

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## Mobile Edge & Low Latency Networking

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## Terahertz (THz) Communications & Sensing

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### Dante Youla Award

Fabrizio Carpi, a student of NYU WIRELESS professors Elza Erkip and Siddharth Garg, received the 2022 Dante Youla Award, an honor given in memory of ECE Professor Emeritus Dante Youla, who passed away in August 2021. The award recognizes Ph.D. students who make important research contributions to the field, either as the principal author of an impactful paper or as the recipient of a significant external award. Pictured (l. to r.) are fellow award winners Linan Huang, Leilei Cui, ECE Department Chairman Professor Ivan Selesnick, Fabrizio, and Guanrui Li.



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