

Wireless Spectrum R & D Project Inventory
(As of 2/1/2013)

AGENCY	DEPARTMENT/ DIVISION /LAB/ PROGRAM/ AWARD	Project #	PROJECT TITLE/DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES	INTENDED APPLICATION ENVIRONMENT (See Attachment C for examples)	EXPECTED FREQUENCY RANGE	Topic Area	Topic # 3	Topic # 23	Topic # 19	Topic # 6	Topic # 15	Topic # 7	Topic # 1	Topic # 14	Topic # 11	Topic # 4	Topic # 13	Topic # 16	Topic # 2	Topic # 21	Topic # 22	Topic # 12	Topic # 8	Topic # 5	Topic # 9	Topic # 18	Topic # 17	Topic # 10	Topic # 20	Maturity	Basic Research	Applied Research	Advanced Technology Development	Advanced Component Development	Demonstration & Validation	Funding	Funded in Past (2006-2010)	Presently Funded (FY11)	
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NSF	CISE 0626964 / Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	1.01	Collaborative Research: NeTS-NBD: An Integrated Approach to Computing Capacity and Developing Efficient Cross-Layer Protocols for Wireless Networks	The research develops a unified mathematical framework for estimating the capacity and designing efficient cross-layer protocols in wireless ad hoc and mesh networks. In contrast to earlier efforts to derive analytical bounds on the capacity of random instances, the focus here is an algorithmic theory of network capacity. The mathematical programming framework guides the development of novel cross-layer protocols, and the theoretical effort is complemented by careful implementation and evaluation of protocols within existing simulation tools, such as ns-2, as well as on real rooftop wireless networks. The research consists of three basic components: (1) mathematical programming-based formulations of network capacity and efficient algorithms for computing capacity under multiple constraints, such as latency, energy, interference, etc; (2) the design and development of protocols and associated metrics that are motivated by the mathematical programming framework, and (3) prototype implementation and rigorous statistical analysis of protocols in a simulation environment, as well as on real roof-top wireless networks. The algorithmic theory of network capacity is										1																			X					#####		
NSF	CISE 0626980 / University of North Carolina at Charlotte	1.084	NeTS-NBD: WLAN Resource Management Using Multi-Agent Systems	This research investigates cooperative resource management among multiple WLANs (wireless local area networks) in WLAN/WPAN (wireless personal area networks) interference environments. The proliferation of WLAN deployments causes frequent geographical coverage overlap among multiple networks. When this occurs, the lack of cooperative resource management results in significant performance degradation due to inter-WLAN interference. Moreover, unbalanced loads among multiple networks can incur congestion in a few WLANs while there are unused resources in others. The objective of this research is to manage shared system resources fairly among multiple WLANs to optimize the overall performance. This research emphasizes the underlying predictability of network conditions and promotes management solutions tailored to different interference environments. A multi-agent system-based approach is proposed to achieve information sharing and decision distribution among multiple WLANs in a distributed manner. This research addresses the distributed constraint optimization problem (DCOP) in WLANs and studies the effectiveness of DCOP algorithms to find the optimal resource assignment through										1																			X					#####		
NSF	CISE 0627074 / University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	1.082	NeTS-NBD: Multi-Channel Wireless Mesh Networks: Capacity, Protocols, and Experimental Evaluation	The density of wireless devices in homes, offices, and public spaces is expected to continue to increase with time, making it important to develop strategies to fully utilize the available wireless spectrum. Towards this goal, this project investigates protocol mechanisms that can exploit the availability of multiple wireless channels within a single wireless mesh network, while requiring each host or router to use only a small number of wireless interfaces. With a small number of interfaces, although a single host may not be able to use all the channels simultaneously, a group of hosts in a given neighborhood may be collectively able to use all the channels. This project strives to develop suitable protocols to translate this intuition into reality. The project is expected to have an impact on theory and practice of wireless mesh networking, by improving performance achievable in such networks. The anticipated results of the project include: Fundamental capacity analysis that establishes fundamental limits on performance of multi-channel wireless mesh networks, Network layer and link layer mechanisms that exploit availability of multiple wireless channels, while using a small number of interfaces at the hosts, and										1																			X					#####		

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NSF	CISE 0721313 / Norfolk State University	12.139	NeTS-WN: Collaborative Research: Toward High-Performance Mesh Networks	This project studies three fundamental problems to improve the performance of wireless mesh networks. (1) Managing delay and jitter. One fundamental problem affecting the performance of current mesh networks is the hop-by-hop relaying of data, resulting in significant per-hop and per-packet delay and/or jitter. This project designs a new MAC paradigm and a distributed method of scheduling data transmissions in a path-aware manner, to eliminate per-packet delay and jitter while minimizing per-hop delays. (2) Capacity analysis and utility optimization. As an augmentation to the large amount of simulation studies on multi-channel multi-radio mesh networks, this project develops a general theoretical model to analyze both unicast and broadcast capacities of mesh networks, and applies the model to optimally assign channels to maximize capacity, as well as optimizing application-specific utility functions relevant to user-perceived network performance. (3) Channel assignment for dynamic spectrum access mesh networks. Recent advancement in cognitive radio technology and regulatory reform in spectrum policy offer dynamic spectrum access (DSA) capability to mesh networks via providing dynamically																			1											X					#####	
NSF	CISE 0721361 / University of Delaware	12.14	NeTS-WN: Collaborative Research: Toward High-Performance Mesh Networks	This project studies three fundamental problems to improve the performance of wireless mesh networks. (1) Managing delay and jitter. One fundamental problem affecting the performance of current mesh networks is the hop-by-hop relaying of data, resulting in significant per-hop and per-packet delay and/or jitter. This project designs a new MAC paradigm and a distributed method of scheduling data transmissions in a path-aware manner, to eliminate per-packet delay and jitter while minimizing per-hop delays. (2) Capacity analysis and utility optimization. As an augmentation to the large amount of simulation studies on multi-channel multi-radio mesh networks, this project develops a general theoretical model to analyze both unicast and broadcast capacities of mesh networks, and applies the model to optimally assign channels to maximize capacity, as well as optimizing application-specific utility functions relevant to user-perceived network performance. (3) Channel assignment for dynamic spectrum access mesh networks. Recent advancement in cognitive radio technology and regulatory reform in spectrum policy offer dynamic spectrum access (DSA) capability to mesh networks via providing dynamically																			1											X					#####	
NSF	CISE 0721421 / Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	1.092	NeTS-WN: Capacity Problems for MIMO- Enabled Wireless Mesh Networks	Recent advances in multiple-input-multiple-output (MIMO) technology show that much higher spectrum efficiency and capacity gain can be achieved by the use of multiple antennas at a node. The benefits of substantial improvement in capacity at no cost to additional spectrums have positioned MIMO as a breakthrough technology in wireless communications. Although MIMO is an active research area in the wireless communications community, there is very limited knowledge on how to apply MIMO technologies to improve network capacity in a multi-hop wireless network environment, perhaps because unlike existing wireless mesh networks, which are conceptually simple and relatively easy to characterize, the mathematical characterization of a MIMO-based mesh network involves space domain and requires complex matrix operations. Specifically, the unique MIMO channel matrix and potential spatial multiplexing introduce new research problems at multiple layers. This project aims to systematically address fundamental theories and algorithms for future MIMO-enabled mesh networks. Specifically, there are three main thrusts in this project: (1) developing tractable cross-layer matrix representation and theoretical models from										1																			X					#####		

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NSF	ENG 0631286 / Ohio State University Research Foundation -DO NOT USE	3.019	The Ohio State University ConnectionOne Center for Radio Frequency Systems	The Ohio State University will become a research site partner in the multi-university Industry/University Cooperative Research Center for Telecommunications, Integrated Circuits and Systems. The research site will provide the capabilities, expertise, and research facilities for conducting collaborative research in the multi-university research program. The collaborative research will enhance the research/education activities within the group and advance the state-of-the-art of the wireless communications technology, and establish stronger ties with industry.				1																										X					#####	
NSF	ENG 0636463 / GA Tech Research Corporation - GA Institute of Technology	13.023	TCHCS: Collaborative Research: Optimal Hybrid RF-Wireless Optical Communication for Maximum Efficiency and Reliability	ECS-0636569 H. Pishro-Nik, University of Massachusetts Amherst ECS-0636463 A. Adibi, GA Institute of Technology Intellectual Merit: The University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Georgia Institute of Technology propose an optimal hybrid free space optical/radio frequency point-to-point communication system that simultaneously achieves maximum availability and maximum efficiency. The concept behind the proposed communication algorithms and architectures is cooperation between the two heterogeneous channels. At the heart of the proposed hybrid system is a hybrid-channel coding scheme that makes it possible to maintain a high data throughput, even under extreme atmospheric conditions. The code nearly achieves the highest theoretically possible rates and obviates the need for switching between two different links or networks (i.e., wireless and optical). Such communication system provides a unique solution when a high throughput with an extremely low outage probability is crucial. The research includes three strongly coupled components: 1. Analysis, design, and implementation of a new rate-adaptive coding mechanism to optimally use the parallel channels; 2.														1																X					#####	
NSF	ENG 0636569 / University of Massachusetts Amherst	13.027	TCHCS: Collaborative Research: Optimal Hybrid RF-Wireless Optical Communication for Maximum Efficiency and Reliability	ECS-0636569 H. Pishro-Nik, University of Massachusetts Amherst ECS-0636463 A. Adibi, GA Institute of Technology Intellectual Merit: The University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Georgia Institute of Technology propose an optimal hybrid free space optical/radio frequency point-to-point communication system that simultaneously achieves maximum availability and maximum efficiency. The concept behind the proposed communication algorithms and architectures is cooperation between the two heterogeneous channels. At the heart of the proposed hybrid system is a hybrid-channel coding scheme that makes it possible to maintain a high data throughput, even under extreme atmospheric conditions. The code nearly achieves the highest theoretically possible rates and obviates the need for switching between two different links or networks (i.e., wireless and optical). Such communication system provides a unique solution when a high throughput with an extremely low outage probability is crucial. The research includes three strongly coupled components: 1. Analysis, design, and implementation of a new rate-adaptive coding mechanism to optimally use the parallel channels; 2.														1																X					#####	

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NSF	ENG 0738088 / Auburn University	12.084	I/UCRC, Wireless Research Center for Cross-Layer Optimization of Coexisting Systems	Auburn University plans to establish a research site of the Industry/University Cooperative Research Center for the Wireless Internet. The research at Auburn University will address several important areas in the next generation wireless Internet and will complement the research capabilities at the existing research sites. The theme of the research will be cross-layer optimization of coexisting wireless systems. As a research site of the I/UCRC, Auburn University will be able to expand the base of technologies that the faculty and graduate students have been addressing at the system level. The research will benefit the society by providing efficient and low cost wireless systems.																			1											X					#####	
NSF	ENG 0740154 / Nasfne Photonics, Inc.	13.018	SBIR Phase I: Ultra-Linear Optical Modulator (SFDR +130-145.1 dBHz)	This Small Business Innovation Research Phase 1 research project aims to investigate the feasibility of a super-linear optical modulator technology. This innovation involves a unique and complementary combination of Phase Modulator (PM) and weak Gires-Tournois Resonator (GTR) modulator inside a reflective-type modulator. This modulator has other superior features such as broadband operation, high tolerance characteristics, simple design structure, small footprint, and low-cost potential. This research will focus on the design, simulation, fabrication, and measurement on this ultra-linear waveguide-type optical modulator designed to operate below GHz ranges. The impact of this project has broad commercial, military and scientific significance and represents a major, on-going engineering challenge because of its fundamental role in the overall performance of analog fiber-optics transmission links. In the commercial arena, linearized modulators are key devices in ultra-dense cable television (CATV), Radio-over-Fiber (RoF) communications, broadband wireless access, cellular/personal communication and other mobile platform antenna systems. In the military arena, linearized modulators with															1															X					#####	
NSF	ENG 0740453 / PRIME RESEARCH LC	13.021	STR Phase I: Optowireless	This STR Phase I research proposal will solve disparate requirements of all-optical networks and mobile wireless networks by reconciling, linking, and harmonizing the optical and wireless domains. It will enable a host of new network architectures and mechanisms for integrating optical and wireless domains. Subsequent development may focus on full duplex communications, further miniaturization, or network architectures that exploit the full range of benefits. This will lead to a myriad of enabling spin-off technologies in applications that require extreme miniaturization. The system will develop a method to harvest optical energy from fibers to generate electrical power. This technology will enable microsystems to be driven by purely optical means over many kilometers of optical fiber. This wireless technology promises a host of applications, particularly in harsh or extreme environments. Fiber optic sensor systems will benefit by having another degree of freedom for multiplexing and interrogation. Applications that require fiber optic sensor instrumentation but cannot provide access may use this to interrogate the systems over wireless links. This can be used to replace copper cables in ships, airplanes, hospitals,															1															X					#####	

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NSF	ENG 0924028 / Pharad LLC	13.022	SSTR Phase II: Optical Fiber Distributed 60 GHz Wireless Personal Area Network	This award is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5). This Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase II research project will create novel technologies for the realization of a cost-effective, optical fiber distributed 60 Gigahertz (GHz) wireless personal area network (WPAN). The 60 GHz frequency region for wireless communications is attracting much interest worldwide because of the huge bandwidth it can provide. The integration of a 60 GHz WPAN with a fiber-optic signal distribution scheme will enable the required high data rate signals to be efficiently and cost-effectively delivered to a large number of radio access points ensuring optimized radio coverage. A cost-effective prototype wireless access point for a fiber distributed 60 GHz WPAN will be developed and multi-gigabit-per-second (Gb/s) bi-directional data transmission demonstrated. Consumers will directly benefit from the fiber distributed 60 GHz WPAN through the provision of new communication services and the increased affordability in gaining access to unprecedented multi-Gb/s data rate tetherless connectivity. The broader impacts of this research are the														1															X					#####		
NSF	ENG 0925034 / University of Washington	2.014	Integrated Space- time Strategies for Imaging and Communication in Complex Environments	This award is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5). The objective of this research is the development of new, generalized integrated imaging and communication technologies making use of recent studies on several techniques such as time-reversal imaging, correlation imaging, and array coherence tomographic imaging. These integrated techniques offer new areas of research with a potential for practical applications. The approach is the combined use of analytical, numerical and experimental studies for the specific topics of: (i) information fusion of multiple imaging sensors; (ii) coherent passive radars making use of angle-of-arrival estimation and ambiguity function; and (iii) research on communications through complex environments unifying propagation research and signal processing. Theories and computations are often based on assumptions and approximations and it is important to verify the results by experiments. This research includes experiments using the proposed methods to verify the theories and to point to new improvement of theories. The intellectual merit of this research is new theoretical foundations which unify propagation and																1													X					#####		
NSF	ENG 0925469 / University of Rochester	16.031	Information Theoretical Approach to Data Converters Design: Turbo-code A/D Converters	The objective of this research is to develop a new class of high performance analog-to-digital converters. The approach is to treat an analog-to-digital converter as a communication channel and to employ concepts from information and communications theory in its analysis and design. Existing architectures fall far short of the theoretical "conversion capacity," the maximum bit resolution - bandwidth product achievable for a given device technology. However, by employing turbo-coding principles and other near-capacity achieving coding schemes, converter architectures that approach theoretical conversion capacity are possible. Intellectual Merit: This research synthesizes two previously disconnected fields, information theory and analog integrated circuit design, to give new insights into analog-to-digital converter performance limits and to lead to architectures that will enable the theoretical performance limits to be reached by employing advanced coding strategies to overcome practical limitations such as device switching speed and noise. Broader Impacts: Improved analog-to-digital converters will enable applications such as software-defined radio to improve the																1													X					#####		

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NSF	MPS 0926384 / University of Oklahoma Norman Campus	2.034	926384 Title One year in National Weather Center Mathematical theory in radar image	This award is funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5). The PI will spend one academic year at the National Weather Center (NWC), on the campus of the University of Oklahoma. The PI will gain experience in the acquisition and interpretation of radar data, and enhance his collaborations with researchers at NWC. The proposed research builds upon the expertise of the PI in the study of geometric flows. Recently, the PI and his collaborators have successfully introduced conformal geometric flows for one dimensional simple curves, as well as other geometric flows, that are expected to have applications to problems at NWC. The nonlinear decomposition of images will also be studied, and this work may lead to more efficient representations of weather phenomena. The PI will use this experience at NWC to develop a new course on the mathematical theory of image analysis. There will also be new opportunities for interdisciplinary research for undergraduate and graduate students.																1														X					#####	
NSF	MPS 0929241 / Southern Methodist University	15.006	929241 Title Numerical Methods for Wave Propagation Problems Efficient Resolution of Multiple Scales	The focus of our research will be the detailed study of questions we deem crucial to the development of reliable, efficient, and general computational tools for wave propagation problems. These, in turn, can have long-term impacts on numerous fields in science and engineering. Precisely we will: (i) Further develop accurate methods for truncating the computational domain near regions where full approximations are required, extending the range of application of the successful methods we have previously constructed to inhomogeneous and anisotropic media as well as to multiscale computations; (ii) Construct and analyze novel high-resolution approximation schemes enabling accurate simulations with near-optimal degrees-of-freedom per wavelength, mild time-step stability restrictions, and easy coupling with grid generation software to efficiently treat problems in complex geometry; (iii) Apply our methods to difficult problems in aeroacoustics; (iv) Collaborate with other computational scientists who are building and maintaining high-quality software for simulating waves. Wave propagation phenomena are ubiquitous in nature. Although waves may be produced by physical processes ranging from electric								1																						X					#####	
NSF	MPS 0954704 / GA Tech Research Corporation - GA Institute of Technology	12.017	954704 Title CAREER Streaming Data Analysis in Sensor Networks	This research aims to offer statistical foundation and a host of efficient scalable methodologies for streaming data analysis in sensor networks. In many applications, sensor networks are deployed to online monitoring of changing environments over time and space, with a goal of early detection of some particular trigger events that can cause significant damage. However, the nature of streaming data from distributed, diverse sources and the constrained network resources (on communication, computing, costs, privacy of raw data, etc.) pose significant challenges, which require the development of new statistical tools, methods and theories. In this project, the investigator proposes a novel general framework for monitoring sensor networks in which a trigger event may affect different sensors or data streams differently. Some specific research topics include pure (consensus or parallel) detection and inference after detection, under different scenarios, depending on the models for sensor observations and the design requirements of sensor protocols. In addition, the research will integrate research and education by infusing the research findings into the curriculum, by organizing seminars																														X					#####	

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NSF	MPS 1013766 / Cornell University	12.17	1013766 Title RFI Mitigation Workshop	This proposal solicits funds for 10 early career US scientists and/or engineers to attend the Workshop on Radiofrequency Interference Mitigation 2010 (RFI2010), to be held 29-31 March, 2010 in Groningen, the Netherlands, near Westerbork Observatory. RFI2010 is the third in a series of international workshops, held every 3-4 years; they provide the only forum where scientists can exchange ideas and share results on this important topic.																			1											X					#####	
NSF	MPS 1016405 / New Jersey Institute of Technology	15.002	1016405 Title Hybrid Algorithms for Wave Propagation	This project is focused on the development of innovative and efficient algorithms dedicated to solving problems of acoustic and electromagnetic wave propagation. The strategy consists of using domain decomposition to design advanced numerical techniques for obtaining high computational efficiency, and improved convergence and accuracy properties. The proposed approach also allows for suitable utilization of parallel computing. The investigator is concerned with two classes of problems. The first consists of using domain decomposition methods to suitably combine, (1) finite element methods with boundary element methods, and (2) finite element methods with asymptotic techniques. In the second class, the investigator proposes to couple domain decomposition methods with a specific integral equation method for problems concerning multiple scatterers in the high frequency regime. The resulting algorithm bypasses the need to solve at the wavelength scale while retaining error-controllability. A new Krylov-subspace method that significantly improves convergence of the iterative procedure will be investigated. This approach will decrease the computational time required to obtain a								1																						X					#####	
NSF	MPS 1016577 / University of Texas at Austin	15.003	1016577 Title Multiscale Algorithms for Wave Propagation	Most scientific processes and their related mathematical models have important features in a wide range of time and length scales. Some typical examples related to the computation of waves are propagation and scattering of high frequency waves and interaction of the wave field with complex media. Discretizing these problems directly at the finest scale and solving the resulting systems with standard numerical algorithms inevitably leads to an enormous computational problem with unacceptable long computation times and large memory requirements. Building on our previous experience in multiscale algorithms, we plan to design, implement, and analyze novel algorithms for problems in high frequency wave propagation and related fields. Such problems are challenging since many well-known techniques, such as multigrid and standard fast multipole methods have limited efficiency. We will focus on the following three topics: (1) high frequency acoustic and electromagnetic scattering, (2) Gaussian beam methods for high frequency wave and Schrodinger equations, and (3) homogenization of complex media with multiple reiterated scales. The overarching theme of the research presented in this proposal is to exploit the geometric								1																					X					#####		

