ANNUAL REPORT 2020







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CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



It gives me great pleasure to share MCCI's 2020 Annual Report in which we aim to showcase the scope and depth of the research we are engaged in. In what was a challenging year, we reached a significant milestone with Enterprise Ireland and IDA investing €10 million into the centre. The centre commenced operating in Phase 3, a huge endorsement of the research our team continues to deliver for the robust microelectronics sector in Ireland. The sector is an important one for Ireland with over 13,000 jobs and almost €10 billion exports generated. MCCI has become conduit for IDA clients entering the Irish microelectronics system, and we are very encouraged by the number of semiconductor companies establishing or expanding their circuit design R&D operations in Ireland.

In what was an extraordinary year, 2020 highlighted the resilience of the MCCI team who adapted to working remotely while maintaining high levels of productivity. The Covid – 19 pandemic is having a dramatic impact on our sector but our researchers adjusted to the new ways of working, while not compromising on the high quality research undertaken. I would like to commend the support team in Tyndall who worked tirelessly to ensure that all essential research continued through the restrictions, while being fully compliant with public health guidelines. Our team were able to work on site and have access to labs, equipment, and work remotely from home.

MCCI will also continue to position itself as a provider of key enabling technology to generate and support new start-up companies in areas such as medical devices, smart food and smart agriculture. We will achieve this through the consistent quality of our research and the scale of our national footprint with our high performing teams located in Tyndall, University



College Dublin, University College Cork, Munster Technological University, Institute of Technology Carlow, University of Limerick and Maynooth University. I am pleased to announce that at the time of print a new Executive Director is about to be appointed to drive the scale and ambition plans for MCCI.

The team profiles featured in this report are testimony to the calibre of talent in MCCI.I would like to take this opportunity to thank the MCCI team for their ongoing dedication to generating impactful research that tackles the complex challenges faced by industry. The continued growth and success of MCCI is due to their expertise and unique skillset to deliver innovative ground-breaking research.

Donal Sullivan

Chairperson and Interim Director

ABOUT US

We work collaboratively with our research partners to address application based microelectronic research in developing circuits that sense, condition, convert, interpret and connect the physical and digital worlds. Central to the delivery of commercial impact to our industry partners is the development, protection transfer of novel market ready intellectual property.

Funded by Enterprise Ireland and the IDA, MCCI's mission is to deliver high impact research for the semiconductor industry and to generate high impact innovative technology. MCCI is a national research centre operating within the network of Irish Universities. Hosted at Tyndall National Institute in Cork, with a large team in University College Dublin, as well teams located in six other universities across Ireland making high-calibre academic research accessible to Industry.

In 2020 our stakeholders approved a further €10M funding over the next five years. This investment, coupled with competitively won funding by MCCI from industry and Europe (Horizon 2020) brings the total investment into microelectronic circuit research to €9 million per annum.

Our member companies employ nearly 13,000 people in Ireland, with exports of over €10 billion and have in-house R&D of over €300 million. 22 companies are actively involved in collaborative research projects, including 15 IDA Clients who have increased employment by 458 in the past 2 years as a result of collaborating with Mergers and acquisitions are a major feature of indigenous microelectronics SMEs. For every €1 invested by Enterprise Ireland in MCCI, there is an expected €20 return to the Irish economy by 2023. MCCI plays a key role through the generation of talent, particularly post-graduates with potential to be future leaders in the sector.

VISION AND MISSION

To be the number one microelectronic circuits research centre globally, for industrial and academic collaboration by 2025.

To deliver high impact research outcomes, and by doing so develop our researchers into independent thinkers and future leaders in Irish companies and in the global semiconductor landscape.





NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES



RESEARCH PILLARS



RESEARCH PILLARS



High Speed Transceivers

Research on next generation broadband, TV connectivity, data-centres and cloud computing as well as RF for next generation wireless communications and medical/environmental sensing, imaging and stimulation.







Power Management

Research for Ultra Low Power (ULP) integrated systems, and energy harvesting solutions. Also highly integrated power supplies to address on energy reduction challenges.



Digital

Research focus on "intelligent extreme edge" to cloud. Projects will explore how data is sensed, converted and stored incorporating ML and AI. Data protection and security are a big focus.





Precision Circuits

Research centered on data converters, sensor interfaces, analogue front ends, the core building blocks used in almost all applications.







High-Frequency RF

Focus on fundamental science and applications of microwave and millimetre wave RF front-end components, RF co-design methods for multi-functional RF components, filter synthesis techniques, broadband antenna arrays and low-cost integration methods for wireless, space and defence communication systems.



2020 HIGHLIGHTS

MCCI 3.0

Enterprise Ireland and IDA approved a further €10M funding for MCCI over the next five years. In the last 10 years, we have established ourselves as the single point of contact for access to high calibre microelectronics research in Ireland. This endorsement by our stakeholders will enable us to go from strength to strength by enabling us to continue to deliver world-leading research. We will continue to provide a competitive advantage to microelectronics companies (SMEs and MNCs) located in Ireland leading to increases in employment, export revenue and the generation of future leaders in the sector.



Call for Proposals 2020

We awarded €5 million in research funding for innovative future technologies. The funding will be used to develop future deep-tech, such as beyond 5G wireless communications, implantable biomedical devices, IoT, sustainable electronics, space and satellite electronics.

The eight research projects funded will advance state of the art novel ideas in circuit design, enabling Ireland to lead the way in new applications such as beyond 5G wireless communications, cryogenic circuits, wireless power, implantable biomedical devices, IoT and sustainable electronics. All of the projects will advance ideas for lower power, higher precision analog and mixed signal interface circuits, and new hardware architectures, for emerging applications in sensors, communications, Al and quantum engineering.



Professor Dimitra Psychogiou Appointed

University College Cork and Tyndall National Institute appointed Professor Dimitra Psychogiou, a global expert in RF front-end technologies, to the position of Professor of RF Microwave Communications in the School of Engineering.

Prof. Psychogiou will also assume the role of Head of Group for Advanced Radio Frequency (RF) Technologies at the Tyndall National Institute, where she will undertake internationally-leading research with MCCI. She will lead the RF research pillar with us and we are delighted to have her on board.



Professor Psychogiou, who joins from the University of Colorado Boulder, USA, will lead a new research programme to develop disruptive RF technologies for the next generation of 5G/6G

Dimitra has a track record of ground-breaking research on reconfigurable microwave and millimeter-wave RF front-end components research, and her appointment is a real coup for I To date, Dimitra's research has resulted in more than 160 IEEE publications, the prestigious National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award 2020 and the 2020 International Union of Radio Science (URSI) Young Scientist Award.

Her professorship comes following a four-year career as a faculty member at the University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, Colorado, USA where she led the research on tunable filter technologies. She received her Diploma in Engineering Degree from the University of Patras, Patras Greece, in 2008 and the PhD Degree in Electrical Engineering from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), in Zurich, Switzerland in 2013.

US-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme

Dr Ivan O'Connell, Head of Precision Circuits won a funding award in the US-Ireland R&D Partnership Programme.lvan is the lead applicant on a project entitled "Enabling next generation integrated optoelectronics with free-form metamaterials based on graphene". The project will enable next-generation optical communications, extending the reach and capability of existing fibre optical communication networks. In particular, the team will develop optical components which are compact, energy-efficient, siliconcompatible, and reconfigurable, for use in communication and sensing applications. The researchers will also explore the integration of 2-D materials with nanophotonic structures designed through the recently proposed free-form metamaterials concept.



The total value of the award is €442,860, and the co-applicants are Dr Hamza Shakeel (Queen's University Belfast) and Prof Berardi Sensale-Rodriguez (University of Utah).

2 IP Licenses completed

MCCI's 19th IP license was completed with Altratech for €250K. The research lead was Dr. Ivan O'Connell. The IP covers DNA Sensor Chip; Sigma Delta Modulator on XFAB 0.35um; Interdigitated Sensor Structure Test Chip; Asynchronous I2C Slave Interface; versampled Sigma Delta ADC with extended Input Range.

Events

Our annual technical conference MTC, was hosted virtually for the first time in July 2020. We welcomed 150 attendees online which was a great success. The event ran over 3 days via zoom on the following research areas

- RF & mmWave Power Amplifiers& Frequency Synthesis
- Data Converters
- Application & Circuits Innovations

MTC is a private event for our member companies where we provide them with access to novel information. The event is of very high value to our members as they gain advance insight to our research breakthroughs.



Researchers won €725K in Enterprise Ireland's Capital Call

The Capital Funding Programme provides industry with access to critical, leadingedge equipment and infrastructure, which will help them to build resilience and to remain globally competitive, particularly in the face of challenges such as those posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Heather Humphreys TD announced the successful applicants of the Capital Equipment Fund administered by Enterprise Ireland through the Technology Gateway and Technology Centre Programmes.

The award will fund the purchase of a cryogenic refrigeration system to enhance our quantum materials and nanostructures capabilities. It will be the first opportunity for Irish companies to engage in emerging quantum engineering and space applications.

RESEARCH OVERVIEW

Our research roadmap is centred around the delivery of innovations for the broad range of applications listed below.

Future Networks, Communications and IOT

- Beyond 5G cellular infrastructure for mobile phone technology.
- Satellite and mmWave communications.
- OptoElectronics and PICs.
- Ultra-low Power Radio.

Medical Devices & Technologies and Connected Health

- RF sensing namely depth, distance and composition.
- Biosensing and neuromodulation.
- On-body wearable and in-body implantable.
- Point of care, imaging and robustness.

Smart Agri, Industrial and Automotive

- Smart Agri, and animal diagnostics.
- Sustainability and water quality.
- Green Energy battery monitoring, health and charging.
- Machine monitoring and fault tolerance.
- Radar and antenna.

Digital and Processing

- Quantum and cryogenic.
- Artificial intelligence, machine learning and edge processing.
- Security and cryptographic technologies.
- Robotics navigation, sequencing engines and annealing processors.



CURRENT MEMBERS















cādence[°]





QONOD

Ublox

AltraTech

QUALCOMM

equal1.labs

ROHDE&SCHWARZ



caprimedical



IP REGISTER

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IP AVAILABLE FOR LICENSING

| Description | Owning PRO | Research Lead |
|--|------------|-----------------|
| A 100dBFs SFDR Band-Pass Σ∆ Current-Steering DAC in UMC 90nm | UL | Brendan Mullane |
| 0.32mm², 0-6GHz, 4ps rms Multi-band LC VCO PLL | NUIM | Ronan Farrell |
| A continuous time front end for ADC in 28nm SOI | UL | Tony Scanlan |
| 0.35µm CMOS Instrumentation Amplifier | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS nano-watt 32.768KHz always-on clock generator | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS nano-watt 12b SAR ADC utlizing a 32KHz clock & converting at 800Hz | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS nanowatt differential input & output bandpass filter | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| Digital Control from Innovation partnership | UL | Mark Halton |
| Digital Control synthesis tool from CFTD | UL | Mark Halton |
| 0.35µm CMOS thoracic impedance circuit used to infer respiratory rate | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS nanowatt voltage reference & bias current circuit. Vref is independent of temperature & power supply variation | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS low power PMIC that uses an external inductor to increase a Vin (varying from 2V to 3V) to a higher Vout, programmable up to 18V. | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS Pacing Block which charges a Pace Capacitor via a current source. The Pace Capacitor is discharged in a controlled manner to force the heart to beat. | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS Neurostimulation pulse generator can operate up to 18 Volts, and delivers biphasic currents | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |
| 0.35µm CMOS Digital Block for controlling Pacing or Neurostimulation | UCC | Ivan O'Connell |

IP AVAILABLE FOR LICENSING

| Owning RPO | Research Lead | Category | IP Block | Description | Status |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| UCC | Peter Ossieur | PAM-4 CDR | Components for analog phase locked loop | STM 65nm CMOS, Phase detector, charge pump, analog filter, high- speed digital divider circuit with few programmable divider settings | Silicon Proven |
| UCD | Anding Zhu | ADC | Algorithm | Volterra-based RLS (Recursive Least- Square) algorithms for Digital Post- Correction of ADCs | |
| UCD | Anding Zhu | ADC | Algorithm | Algorithms for Non-uniform Analog Interpolated Multichannel Digital Post- Correction for Time-Interleaved ADCs | |
| UCC | John Doyle | AMS | Current Sense | 0.35µm CMOS High-side Current Sensor | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Kevin McCarthy | Power Management | DCDC | 30MHz DC-DC Converter with Integrated Magnetics | Silicon Proven |
| UL | Tony Scanlan | ADC | ADC | 65nm HiCOSANT SAR ADC with Novel Calibration | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Peter Kennedy | PLL | Freq Div | Divide-by-three Injection-Locked Frequency Divider | |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | RF | Voltage Controlled Oscillator | High-performance Voltage Controlled Oscillators in a SiGe BiCMOS technology | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | RF | Varactor | High Q Varactor for High-performance Voltage Controlled Oscillators in a SiGe BiCMOS technology | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | ADC | Thermal noise reduction | Reduction of Sampled KT/C Thermal Noise for ADC | Simulation |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | AMS | TIA | 3.3V 0.35µm transimpedance amplifier | GDS |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | AMS | Active Quench Circuit | Active quench circuit for use with Single Photon Avalance Diode | GDS |
| UCC | lvan O'Connell | AMS | Bandgap | 3.3V supply 0.35µm 1.2V Bandgap Reference circuit | GDS |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | Digital | Ring Oscillator | 0.35µm 666MHz ring oscillator with divide-by-32 | GDS |

| Owning RPO | Research Lead | Category | IP Block | Description | Status |
|---------------|-------------------|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | AMS | SPAD readout | 0.35µm single photon avalance diode pixel read out circuit | GDS |
| UCC | lvan O'Connell | AMS | TDC | 0.35µm time-to-digital converter | GDS |
| UCC | lvan O'Connell | Digital | Standard-cells | 0.35µm digital standard cells | Layout |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | Biomedical | Pace controller circuit | 0.35µm CMOS low power Cardiac Pace Controller which interfaces with sense channels & microprocessor to handle multi-mode pacing | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | lvan O'Connell | Clocking | Clock generator | 0.35µm CMOS low power clock oscillator that generates a freq stable across power supply range, with adjustable pulse width | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | Biomedical | Chip | 0.35µm CMOS low power chip that includes Atrium Sense, Ventricle Sense, Thorasic Impedance Sense, Atrium Pace, Ventricle Pace, Neurostimulation, Hysteric Boost Block and Real time Clock to enable Rate Responsive heart pacing | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | Biomedical | Chip | 0.35µm CMOS low power chip that includes Atrium Sense, Ventricle Sense, Atrium Pace, Ventricle Pace, Neurostimulation, Hysteric Boost, Real time Clock and Pace Controller to enable heart sensing and pacing without the intervention of a micro controller | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | ADC | Capacitive- to-Digital converter | 0.35µm CMOS Oversampled Sigma Delta ADC with extended Input Range | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | Digital | Asynchronous I2C Slave Interface | Asynchronous I2C Slave Interface | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | lvan O'Connell | Sensor | Layout | Several permutations of Interdigitated Sensor Structure Test Chip | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | lvan O'Connell | ADC | Sigma Delta Modulator | Sigma Delta Modulator on XFAB 0.35µm | GDS |

| Owning RPO | Research Lead | Category | IP Block | Description | Status |
|---------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | Biomedical | DNA Sensor Chip | 0.35µm CMOS DNA Sensor Chip containing a high-resolution sigma- delta Capacitive-to-Digital converter, I2C Interface, bandgap reference, bias generator, 1MHz oscillator, Power-on-Reset circuits, EEPROM memory for ID coding, chip tracking, and sensor calibration coefficients. | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | ADC | SAR ADC Chip | 28nm 13 ENOB noise-shaped SAR ADC | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | ADC | SAR ADC Chip | 28nm 15 ENOB noise-shaped SAR ADC | GDS |
| UCC | Mark Smyth | Clocking | ADPLL | 28nm 16GHz Low Power All-Digital Phase Locked Loop (DPLL) | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | ADC | SAR ADC Chip | 65nm Low Power 1MS/s 12-bit SAR ADC, 76db SFDR, 62db SNR | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | Ivan O'Connell | ADC | SAR ADC Chip | 130nm 2-MS/s 12-bit Extended Input Range SAR ADC with Improved DNL & Offset Calculation | Silicon Proven |
| UCC | lvan O'Connell | ADC | High-speed ADC | 28nm 1GS/s 8-Bit ADC | Layout |
| UCC | R. Bogdan Staszewski | RF | RF-DAC | 28nm iDTX - an Interpolative Digital Transmitter with Quantization Noise and Replicas Rejection | Silicon Proven |

RESEARCHER PROFILES



OUR RESEARCH LEADERS





Dr. Ivan O'Connell



Dr. Teerachot Siriburanon

Prof. R. Bogdan

Staszewski

Dr. Deepu John







Prof. Dimitra Psychogiou



















Dr. Barry Cardiff











Dr. Darren Francis Kavanagh





Dr. Ivan O'Connell, Head of Precision Circuits

projects. In addition, he is an SFI Programme Committee. CONNECT Funded Investigator and is actively involved in the newly

Ivan joined MCCI in 2013 and is the funded SFI centre VistaMilk. Prior Head of Group of the MCCI core to joining MCCI, Ivan was the Design research team. Since joining MCCI Manager in ChipSensors, which he has grown the MCCI core team was subsequently acquired by to 20 researchers, which consists Silicon Laboratories in 2010. While of Masters and PhD students, there, he lead the development of Postdocs, Research Assistants and their digital relative humidity and Senior Researchers. His primary temperature sensor products, from research interests are in the area of initial concepts, through to initial Analogue Mixed Signal Circuits and and interim prototypes, to their data converters. He is particularly subsequent commercialisation, interested in the application of this including custom test development. research in areas including: Internet Since joining MCCI, he has secured of Things, Biomedical, Smart Agri €6 million in funding, in addition and Energy Harvesting. He is to 10 commercial licenses and currently a principal investigator in transferring 27 trained researchers a number of Innovation Partnerships to industry. Since 2016, he is a and Commercialisation Funds. He member of the Custom Integrated is involved in a number of H2020 Circuits Conference Technical

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Dr. Daniel O'Hare, Senior Researcher

In May 2017 Danny joined MCCI as a senior researcher based in Tyndall National Institute. Danny's research interests are low noise, low area and low voltage analogue interface circuits and ADCs. These interests are applied in Sensor interface ICs with photonics interfaces and precision current sensing strong interests. He lectures 'Advanced Analogue IC Design' to UCC masters in Electronic Engineering students and is a UCC school of Engineering Fellow. Prior to MCCI he worked in industry for 12 years. From 2000 to 2008 he was with Motorola/ Freescale Semiconductor designing filters, ADCs and DACs for Cellular transceivers. From 2008 to 2012 he was Analogue Design lead with M4S NV a spinout of IMEC and from 2013 to 2017 he was an ADC researcher in the Circuits and

Systems group at the University of Limerick.

Current research: Danny's present research is in low-noise sensor interface circuits for sensor fusion and Bio-medical applications. He supervise several PhD research projects investigating precision current interfaces and magnetic field sensors. He has several on-going projects with the Biophotonics group at Tyndall National Institute.

Education: Danny received the BE degree in Electronic Engineering from University College Dublin in 2000 and completed his PhD at the University of Limerick in 2017. His PhD title was "Design of Continuous Time input pipeline ADCs for deep sub-micron technologies".





Anita Schuler, Senior Digital Design Engineer

Current Research: 1.5GHz Noiseshaped SAR ADC on TSMC 28nm

Implementation of an ADC Non-Linearity Calibration Algorithm in the Xilinx Zynq UltraSca

Research Topics: Digital design for ADCs, including specification, design, Verilog RTL Coding, verification, synthesis, place and route and gate-level back-annotated simulations.

Digital PLL on TSMC 28nm

Cadence Innovus

Verilog and Digital Design consulting to other groups in Tyndall/UCD

Education: Anita holds a B. Eng (Electronic Engineering), University of Limerick, 1994. First Class Honours.

Work Experience: Anita previously worked as a Digital Design Engineer in Silicon and Software Systems (S3) in Dublin. She then moved to Galway and worked as a Senior Digital Design Engineer for Toucan Technology, which was later acquired by PMC-Sierra.

She also worked as an FPGA Digital-on-Top auto-routing using Design Lead for a start-up company called PortoMedia.





Dr. Gerardo Salgado, Senior Researcher

Current Research: He is developing novel high resolution Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC) architectures using digital signal processing techniques to compensate for analog circuit imperfections. He is also continuously developing/improving his Matlab(R)-based SAR ADC design toolbox, SIMSAR, which provides accurate simulation results at a highly reduced computational time. The SIMSAR toolbox is available to download free from charge at https://www.mcci.ie/ simsar-toolbox/. (This toolbox has been already downloaded over 100 times from different universities around the world.)

Researchtopics:DesignandimplementationofSARADCs,Delta-SigmaModulators(Digital,

Discrete-time and Continuoustime), Digital Signal Processing (Filter design), Machine-Learning assisted calibration and simulation algorithms for ADCs, Behavioural modelling, and Computer-Aided-Design tools.

Education: Gerardo Salgado received the B.S., M.S and Ph.D. degrees in Electronics Engineering form Institutes ITP and INAOE, Mexico, in 2009, 2011 and 2015, respectively. During his Ph.D. studies, he joined the Microelectronics Institute of Seville (IMSE), Seville, Spain, and Texas A&M University, USA, as a visiting scholar. Since January 2016 he has been working as a postdoc researcher at MCCI.





Aidan Murphy, PhD Student

Current Research: As sensing technologies develop, there is an increase in the demand to take measurements at the point of sample. MCCI are collaborating with the Nanotechnology Group electrochemical sensor detection. A have been enabled on the data acquisition system. The system is now battery powered and wireless connectivity has been enabled via Bluetooth. It can be interfaced to via an android smartphone application. Current work is focused on implementing portable impedemetric biosensing for nano electrochemical sensors.

ng • Embedded Systems

- Electrochemistry
- Nanotechnology

sample. MCCI are collaborating with the Nanotechnology Group in Tyndall to enable point of care electrochemical sensor detection. A variety of voltammetric techniques have been enabled on the data Education: Aidan received his BE degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from University College Cork in 2016 and is currently pursuing a PhD degree with MCCI, University College Cork.





Subhash Chevella, Senior Design Engineer

Current research: Current research Education: Subhash Chevella is involved in investigating the novel design ideas to improve the linearity and the noise for high precision analogue circuits. In addition, digitally assisted techniques to improve the performance of analogue engineering blocks.

Research topics: Low power technology

High speed, Low noise Dynamic amplifiers

High precision & Hybrid ADCs

Primary focus of his research is precision analogue engineering blocks. He completed his Master's in 2011 from DA-IICT, India. His Masters

research was involved in Analysis of Charge injection, Clock feedtechniques in deep-submicron through and Capacitor mismatch in Switched Capacitor Circuits.

a PhD researcher at MCCI. The

He completed his Bachelor's in Electronics and Communication in 2009 from JNTU, Hyderabad, India.





Annamaria Fordymacka, PhD Student

Current Research: Temperature here is on designing a more efficient sensors are required in a vast number of applications such as food monitoring or MEMS compensation. Traditionally, the temperature sensor read-out circuitry would consist of a Wheatstone bridge followed by an instrumentation amplifier that would require high input impedance and low inputreferred noise. While the design of such an amplifier is challenging, the design of the subsequent analog-todigital converter (ADC) is equally if not more demanding, to ensure that these blocks do not limit the resultant achievable resolution and accuracy. There have been many attempts to remove the requirement for the input instrumentation amplifiers from temperature-todigital converters, but the majority of these are based on either sigmadelta or VCO based ADC, which trade area for power. The research

architecture for a bridge-to-digital converter.

Research Topics:

- Analog and Mixed-Signal IC Design
- Hybrid Data Converters
- Low Energy Applications
- Sensor Interfaces

Education: Annamaria graduated from UCC with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical & Electronic Engineering in 2014. After her graduation, she joined MCCI at Tyndall National Institute where she completed her Master's degree in 2016. She is currently a PhD researcher in MCCI under the supervision of Dr Ivan O'Connell. The primary focus of her research is mixed signal/analogue IC design.





Spyros Kalogiros, PhD Student

a Ph.D. Student / Researcher. and fully integrated biopotential He received his B.E. degrees in acquisition chip, for cardiac pacing Electronic Engineering Education and sensing purposes. His current and in Electronic Engineering, in Ph.D. research is on the field of 2010 and 2011 respectively, both Delta-Sigma from the School of Pedagogical and Technological Education in Athens, Greece, and his M.S. degree in Electronic Physics / Radioelectrology from the Physics Department of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, by the ongoing and increasing in 2015. He has held internship positions with COSMOTE S.A. in Athens, Greece, as a broadband network engineering trainee for the operation, maintenance and upgrade of its 3G mobile network, and with MCCI, where

Spyridon (Spyros) is currently he has worked on an implantable Analog-to-Digital Converters, aiming to develop new design guidelines and solutions for higher performance in terms of higher Figure-of-Merit, and therefore, to set higher state-ofthe-art specifications, as imposed demand for even more efficient Analog-to-Digital Converters over the next few years.





Madhan Venkatesh, PhD Student

Current research : Developing low Education : B.E. in electronics and power and low voltage analog to digital converters on TSMC 65nm.

Research topics: low voltage and low noise comparator design, low power digital circuits, sampling circuits breaking the KT/C thermal noise Limit, SAR ADC'S.

communication from Visvesvaraya Technological University, Karnataka, India and is currently pursuing the PhD degree with MCCI, University College Cork





Hao Zheng, Research Assistant

Current research: Implementation Research Topic: of high-resolution data converter in 28nm CMOS processes for IoT application.

Building DPLL and noise model for the clock jitter research, based on Matlab and Simulink.

Analysis and research jitter suppression techniques for the high-resolution converter.

- CMOS Analog IC design, Mixed-signal system modelling and design.
- DPLL & its noise modelling

Education: Master of Engineering Science, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland(2017)

Bachelor of Engineering, Lanzhou University of Technology, Lanzhou, Gansu, China(2013)





Anthony Wall, PhD Student

Current Research: A host of new methodologies have sensing emerged in electrochemistry and biological sensing over the past decade. The physics of many of these sensing topologies require charge-based rather than potentialbased measurement. Thus, there is a requirement for high resolution current-to-digital readout solutions, often in arrays. Anthony is researching the wide-bandwidth acquisition and digitization of current signals using novel Analogto-Digital conversion methods. Wide bandwidth current readouts present a host of challenges in terms of noise, bandwidth and power consumption. Anthony is exploiting novel circuit architectures, such as the Flipped Voltage Follower Current Conveyor, and developing open-loop, improved-linearity, Current-Controlled Ring Oscillators to improve the state of the art in wideband Current-to-Digital conversion. Anthony has recently completed the tape-out of a Currentto-Digital Converter in 65nm which is capable of 1nArms resolution at 1MHz bandwidth with 65dB

Dynamic Range in a 50umx40um area.

MIDAS 3rd Level Project of the Year Winner for 'Design and Stimulation of an Analog Front End for Cancer Detection by Fluorescence Imaging'

UCC School of Engineering Joe Gantly Prize Winner for design of Sigma-Delta Converter while on placement with Cypress Semiconductor

Research Topics:

- Current-Mode Sensor Interfaces
- High-Resolution Current Measurement
- Wide Bandwidth TIA Frontends
- High Linearity Ring **Oscillator Design**
- Current-Mode ADC design

Education: Anthony graduated from University College Cork with 1st Class Honors in the BE degree in Electrical & Electronic Engineering in 2018, and is currently pursuing the PhD degree with MCCI, University College Cork in the area of Mixed Signal Circuit Design.

Direct Current-to-Digital Converter test chip on 65nm using the Flipped Voltage Follower Current Conveyor and Linearised Open Loop CCO Quantiser. Measuring 1mm x 1mm in total, the ADC cores measure 40um x 50um and achieve 50dB SNDR at 1MHz Bandwidth







Rachel Georgel, PhD Student

photodetectors and electronic interfaces together has many advantages especially in medical device applications, including custom sensor calibration, on chip data conversion and pre-processing and signal control and transmission. Hardware solutions to situate the electronics and photodiodes together can use Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs) technology to connect off the shelf detectors and electronic components, and this can be quickly realised. However, PCB based solutions have a large footprint and PCB wiring tracks pick up noise and parasitic wiring capacitances, which limits the speed of measurements. Hence, this is not an optimal solution to achieve the lowest overall noise,

Current Research: Combining the detect the smallest signals and the most accurate time stamp. Rachel's project involves the design of ultralow noise high precision analogue and digital circuits as an application specific IC (ASIC) to electronically capture bio-photonics data. This involves working with the Biophotonics team to understand their system requirements and then design a custom Integrated Circuit chip(s) to meet those specifications.

> Education: Rachel graduated from University College Dublin with a 1st Class Honours in the BE degree in Biomedical Engineering in 2019. She is currently pursuing a PhD degree with MCCI and the Bio-Photonics group in Tyndall, in the area of electronics interfaces for Bio-Photonics data capture.





Prof. Dimitra Psychogiou

acoustic wave resonator-based and additive manufacturing techniques. Antennas and Propagation Journal.

Dimitra Psychogiou received the Her research has been presented Dipl.-Eng. degree in Electrical in more than 170 IEEE publications and Computer Engineering from and has received the 2020 the University of Patras, Patras, CAREER award from National Greece, in 2008, and the Ph.D. Science Foundation (NSF), the degree in Electrical Engineering 2020 URSI Young Scientist Award from the Swiss Federal Institute and the Junior Faculty Outstanding of Technology (ETH), Zürich, Research Award from UC Boulder. Switzerland, in 2013. She is Prof. Psychogiou is a Senior currently a Professor of Electrical Member of IEEE and URSI and a and Electronic Engineering at the member of the IEEE MTT-S Filters University College Cork (UCC) and Passive Components (MTT-5) and Tyndall National Institute, and Microwave Control Materials Cork Ireland. Prior to joining UCC, and Devices (MTT-13) committes. she was a Sr. Research Scientist Furthermore, she serves on the with Purdue University, West Technical Review Board of various Lafayette, IN, USA and an Assistant IEEE and EuMA conferences and Professor with the University journals and is the Chair of MMTof Colorado Boulder, Boulder, 13 and the Secretary of USNC-URSI CO, USA. Her current research Commission D. Prof. Psychogiou interests include RF design and is an Associate Editor of the IEEE characterization of reconfigurable MICROWAVE AND WIRELESS microwave and millimeter-wave COMPONENTS LETTERS and the passive components, RF-MEMS, International Journal of Microwave Wireless Technologies. filters, tunable filter synthesis, Previously, she was an Associate frequency-agile antennas and Editor of the IET Microwaves,



Dr. John Buckley, Senior Researcher

Electronic Engineering form Cork antenna design, Batteryless wireless Institute of Technology in 1994 and devices using wireless power the MEngSc and PhD Degrees in transfer, reconfigurable antenna Electrical Engineering in 2005 and design, RF front-end (RFFE) design, 2016 respectively. John was with RFIC design, RFID antenna and EMC Corporation, Cork from 1994 system design, Wireless systems to 2002 where he specialized in design, Electromagnetic (EM) PCB design, High-Speed Digital Simulation, RF Circuit simulation, Design and Signal Integrity. John Equivalent circuit modelling, Human joined the Wireless Sensor Network body EM modelling and Testing, (WSN) Group, Tyndall in 2005 Antenna and RF Characterization, where he led the development of Digital system design, Embedded an Antenna and RF Design and Test and Mixed-Signal Design. capability within Tyndall. John is a Senior Researcher with 26 years' experience and leads a team of 7 researchers, consisting of Post-Doctoral researchers, PhD and Masters students working on both fundamental and applied antenna and RF research. John has a long track record of working closely with industry to develop custom antenna and RF solutions ranging from component to system-level solutions from initial concept to working prototypes, and has licensed developed technology to industry.

John received the BEng degree in antennas, Wearable and implantable

Current Research: John's is actively working on several research projects for both industrial and academic applications. These projects include antenna design for wearable healthmonitoring applications, implantable antenna and RF design for medical applications, RFID antenna and system design, antenna and RFIC wirelessly powered implantable medical devices.

Autonomous 433 MHz tunable antenna for wearable wireless antenna applications REF

Research Interests: Electrically small antenna design, Antenna applications bandwidth enhancement, Tunable







Prof. Peter Kennedy

California at Berkeley in 1987 and served as Chair of the IEEE Gustav in 2010, and the DSc (Engineering) Committee, and was Vice-Chair of University of Belfast in 2020. Council in 2020. He has received He joined UCC as Chair of the many prestigious awards including Department of Microelectronic Best Paper (International Journal Engineering in 2000. He served as of Circuit Theory and Applications), Dean of the Faculty of Engineering the 88th IEE Kelvin Lecture, IEEE from 2003 through 2005 and as Millennium and Golden Jubilee UCC's Vice-President for Research Medals, and the inaugural Royal UCD in 2017. He has over 400 Engineering Sciences. In 2004, research publications (including he was elected to membership of oscillator design, hysteresis, neural made a Fellow of the Institution of networks, nonlinear dynamics, Engineers of Ireland by Presidential test, and frequency synthesis.

He has worked as a consultant for SMEs and multinationals in the microelectronics industry and is founding Director of the Microelectronics Industry Design Association (MIDAS Ireland) and the Microelectronic Circuits Centre Ireland (MCCI). He won UCC's Invention of the Year Award in2011 and led the development of the US-Ireland Research Innovation Awards in 2014/15. He was made a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) in 1998 "for contributions to the theory of neural networks

He received the BE (Electronics) and nonlinear dynamics and for degree from UCD in 1984, the MS leadership in nonlinear circuits and PhD from the University of research and education." He has 1991, respectively, the DEng from Robert Kirchhoff Award Committee, the National University of Ireland was a member of the IEEE Fellows honoris causa from the Queen's the IEEE Technical Field Awards from 2005 to 2011. He moved to Irish Academy Parsons Award in four patents) in the fields of the Royal Irish Academy and was chaos communication, mixed-signal Invitation. From 2005 to 2007, he was President of the European Circuits Society and Vice-President of the IEEE Circuits and Systems (CAS) Society (with responsibility for Europe, Africa and the Middle East). He was made a Fellow of the Irish Academy of Engineering in 2014. He was elected to membership of Academia Europaea in 2015. During 2012 and 2013, he was a Distinguished Lecturer of the IEEE CAS Society. He served as Secretary for Policy and International Relations of the Royal Irish Academy from 2012 to 2016 and as President from 2017 to 2020.



Luca Avallone, PhD Student

Current Research: Advanced Frequency Synthesis

Area of Research: Fractional-N All Digital PLLs.

The key points of the research are: Understanding the state-of-the art of the fractional-N structure, identifying its main limits and problems; developing a theoretical analysis of fractional-N time-todigital converter (TDC)-based Digital PLLs; implementing a new solution focusing on the TDC.

Education: Bachelor Degree in Electronic Engineering at University of Naples Federico II, 14/03/2014

Master Degree in Electronic Engineering at University of Naples Federico II, 28/09/2017.





Dawei Mai, Post Doc Researcher

Research:

Performance Fractional Frequency

Synthesis Modelling and analysis of

the source of the spurious tones in

the fractional-N frequency synthesis

are always needed for achieving

better communications systems. In

the traditional phase-locked loop,

the divider controller contributes

significantly to the output phase

noise. The conventional multistage noise shaping delta-sigma modulator

divider controller (MASH-DDSM

divider controller) with a large input

word length induces periodic and time-varying spurious tones in the output phase noise spectrum. To understand the phenomenon, provide

insight into the cause of it, and

finally provide solutions to eliminate the periodic tones is the aim of the

Current

research.

High- Research Topics:

- Modelling of frequency synthesizers
- Spur elimination and noise reduction in fractional-N frequency synthesis

Education: Bachelor of Engineering (2015), University College Cork

Master of Engineering (2018), University College Cork

PhD (2021), University College Dublin





Salvatore Galeone, PhD Student

Current Research: RTWOs as multiphase oscillators for frequency synthesisers The Rotary Travelling Wave Oscillator is an oscillator topology based on a transmission line rather than a lumped resonator. The RTWO operates by propagating a travelling wave along a differential transmission line that is closed in a Möbius connection. The losses of the transmission line are restored by distributed CMOS amplifier stages. This oscillator topology is attractive for the intrinsic multiphase nature of the oscillator and its ability to

CurrentResearch:RTWOsasoperateaveryhighfrequencymultiphase oscillators for frequencywith lowphasenoiseandpowersynthesisersThe RotaryTravellingconsumption.

Research Topics: Oscillators, phase noise.

Education: Salvatore holds a Bachelors' degree in Electronic Engineering from University of Pavia, Italy 2009 and Masters' degree in Electronic Engineering from University of Pavia, Italy, 2012. He was awarded the PhD degree by University College Dublin in 2020.





Dr. Yann Donnelly, Post Doc Researcher

Current Research: Fractional-N Research Topics:

Phase Locked Loops, which are employed throughout the communications industry, suffer from the appearance of spurious components, spectral "spurs", which limit performance. This research topic has elucidated the causes of spurs and investigates techniques for reducing novel this unwanted behaviour. Work to date has achieved best-inclass measured spur performance and further improvements, based on cyclostationary stochastic processes, have been investigated.

- PLL PLL phase noise spectrum prediction
- Reduction of fractional-N spurs by modulator redesign
- Silicon verification through digital IC implementation

Education: BE (Electrical & Electronic) – University College Cork, 2014

PhD (Microelectronics) – University College Cork, 2018





Valerio Mazzaro, PhD Student

Current Research: Advanced fractional-N frequency synthesizers.

In fractional-N PLLs, increased phase noise and spurious tones come from the interaction between the DDSM quantization error and nonlinearities in the system.

The purpose of this project is to Masters Degree in Electronic investigate the nature of spurious tones in fractional-N PLLs in order to predict them and, eventually, mitigate them.

Research Topics: Frequency synthesis, fractional-N PLL design, phase noise, spurious tones, horn spurs.

Education: Bachelors Degree in Electronic Engineering at University of Naples Federico II, 2014

Engineering at University of Naples Federico II, 2017



Xu Wang, PhD Student

Current Research: The CMOS device to come up with novel CMOS noise from the charge pump (CP) with the Fractional-N frequency synthesiser architecture induces spurious response and deteriorates the phase noise performance of the wireless communication system.

The current research analytically studies the noise generation mechanism of the CP, the prediction of which is systematically compared with the system nonlinearity noise. Eventually the research aims

synthesiser design that optimally within the phase-lock loop together minimises the phase noise and with other nonlinearity associated spurs caused by both the device noise and system nonlinearity.

> Research topics: System-and blocklevel analogue design for advanced frequency synthesis, Machineintelligence aided frequency synthesis.

Education: M.Eng. in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Imperial College London (2015-2019)





Prof. R. Bogdan Staszewski

In Sept. 2014 Prof Staszewski joined Texas Instruments, Dallas, Texas, book chapters, 140 journal and 210 telecommunications 200 issued US patents.

Professional experience: University

College Dublin. Position Full Education: Ph.D. in Electrical Professor in the School of Electrical, Electronic & Communications Dallas, USA. Thesis "Digitaldeep-Engineering.

Carrying out research and teaching in the area of microelectronic circuit design; concentrating on frequency synthesis and RF using advanced CMOS for Internet-of-Things (IoT). Delft University of Technology (TU Dec. 1992. B.S. in Electrical Delft), Delft, the Netherlands. July Engineering. Summa Cum 2009 to present. Carrying out Laude, University of Texas at research and teaching in the area of Dallas, USA, with concentration in microelectronics, concentrating on telecommunications, May 1991. frequency synthesis and RF using advanced CMOS.

University College Dublin (UCD) as where achievements included a Full Professor while still holding the invention and development of a part-time Full Professor position the Digital RF Processor (DRP) at TU Delft. Prior to 2014, he was technology: A novel all-digital at Delft University of Technology frequency synthesizer, all-digital (TU Delft) in the Netherlands, RF transmitter and discrete-time where he held academic positions RF receiver architecture that is since 2009. He joined TU Delft suitable for the mainstream digital in 2009 after 18 years in high- CMOS processes and presents a tech industry with diverse unique opportunity to build ultra experience in microelectronics low-cost and power-efficientsingleand communication systems. He chip radios. Developed a new is an IEEE Fellow for contributions digitally-intensive CMOS read to the digital RF communications channel architecture formagnetic systems. In 2012, he won the recording hard-disk drives. Prior prestigious IEEE Circuits and to TI he worked with Alcatel Systems Industrial Pioneer Award. Network Systems, Texas, from He has co-authored five books, six 1991 - 1995, included work in systems, conference publications, and holds discrete analog and digital circuits, high-speed signal integrity. software algorithms.

> Engineering, University of Texas at submicron CMOS frequency synthesis for RF wireless applications," July 2002. M.S. in Electrical Engineering, University of Texas at Dallas, USA, with concentration in digital systems

From 1995 to 2009, he was with



Reza Nikandish, Research Staff

Reza received his Ph.D. degree 2014 and the Second-Place Award in electrical engineering from the Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran, in 2014. He is a Research Fellow with the University College Dublin, Ireland. Reza was a recipient of the Marie Curie Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Program from 2017 to 2020. He was also a recipient of the Iran's National Elites Foundation Fellowship from 2010 to

Winner of the National Electrical Engineering Olympiad in 2004.

His current research interests include

- CMOS integrated circuits for quantum computing and sensing
- Energy-efficient AI and machine learning
- Integrated circuits for mmwave communications



Amir Bozorg, Post Doc Researcher

Amir for automotive radar applications. as an R\D Scientist at former S3 Semiconductor (now Dialog Semiconductor) Dublin, Ireland, where he was developing a K-band phased-array receiver. He has also raised venture capital from Atlantic Bridge Ventures, Dublin, Ireland, for commercializing an ADPLL-

Bozorg received the based phased-array transmitter for M.Sc. degree (with Hons.) in automotive radars. Since 2020 he Microelectronics from Amirkabir has been working with Equal1 Labs University of Technology (Tehran Ltd. in Dublin, Ireland as a Research Polytechnic), Tehran, Iran in 2012. Scientist. He has authored or He just submitted his Ph.D. thesis coauthored several IEEE journal at University College Dublin (UCD), papers, an upcoming book on Ireland. From 2016 to 2018, he discrete-time receivers, and holds was consulting for TSMC, Hsinchu, four issued U.S. patents in the field Taiwan, on a 16-nm ADPLL/RX of RF-CMOS design. His research interests include millimeter-wave/ From 2017 to 2020 he was working RF transceivers, discrete-time receivers, ADPLLs, and oscillators.

> Mr. Bozorg serves as a Reviewer for the IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuit and IEEE Transaction on Circuit and System I.



Dr. Panagiotis Giounanlis, Post Doc Researcher

researcher at UCD since September 2017. His current work includes the development of numerical and analytical approaches for the modeling and simulation of nanostructures and semi-conductor coupled quantum-dots, the development of circuit equivalent models for electron transfer through multiple-guantum-dots, the characterisation and modeling of CMOS devices operation at low temperatures and others. He received his B.SC. degree in Physics and M.Sc. degree - Computational quantum mechanics.

Panagiotis Giounanlis is a postdoc Physics Master of Science from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTh), Greece, in 2008 and 2011 respectively . In 2017, he received his Ph.D degree for his research on the modeling of non-linear effects for micro-scale devices (MEMS) and their application to reliability and control by the use of both numerical and analytical approaches. His research interests include: Modeling and simulation of micro/nano-scale devices and mixed-domain complex systems; Solid state Physics; Computational



Viet Anh Nguyen, PhD Student

Current Research: Viet Anh Nguyen is currently researching ultra-lowvoltage, oscillator-based ADCs for Internet of Things applications.

Research Topics:

- 1. Analog and Mixed-Signal Integrated Circuit design
- Analog-to-digital converters 2.
- Time-to-digital converters 3.
- Process voltage and 4. temperature (PVT) tolerant ultra-low voltage design.

Education: Viet Anh Nguyen has been a PhD student at UCD since September 2017. He received his Masters degree in Electronic and Computer Engineering in 2017 and his Bachelors degree in Electronic and Communications Engineering in 2016, both from University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland.



Supping Hu, PhD Student

He was born in Changzhou, China. 2017, he has been sponsored by He received the B.E. degree in Analog Devices, Cork, Ireland, and Integrated Circuit Design and System from Tianjin University (TJU), Tianjin, China, in 2013, and the M.Sc. degree (Hons.) in Electronic Science and Technology from Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), Shanghai, China, in 2016. He is currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree with University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin, Ireland. Since

worked in a joint project -- ULP receiver.

His current interests include:

- Phase-tracking receiver design
- Ultra-low-power receiver design for BLE application.
- Discreet-time circuit design
- Analog/RF circuit design





Yizhe Hu, Post Doc Researcher

in

(summa cum laude) microelectronics from Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin, China, in 2013, and the Ph.D. degree in microelectronics from University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, in 2019.

From 2013 to 2014, he was with Fudan University, Shanghai, China, where he was involved in RFIC design as a Postgraduate Researcher. From May. 2016 to Oct. 2017, he was consulting for the PLL Group of HiSilicon, Huawei Technologies, Shenzhen, China, designing 16 nm DCOs and ADPLLs. From 2019 to 2020, he

He received the B.Sc. degree was a Postdoctoral Researcher with Prof. R. Bogdan Staszewski in University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland. Since June 2018, he has been consulting for the Mixed-Signal Design Department, TSMC, for a new type of PLL design. He is currently working as a Principle Investigator (PI) at Microelectronic Circuits Centre Ireland, Dublin, Ireland. His research interests include RF/mm-wave integrated circuits and systems for wireless/ wireline communications.

> Dr. Hu serves as a reviewer for the IEEE JSSC, TCAS-I/II, and TMTT."



Hieu Minh Nguyen, PhD Student

Nguyen is now focused on all digital RF Digital-to-Analog Converter and Transmitter for low-band and highband 5G application.

Research Topic:

- Switched-Capacitor Power Amplifier (Switching Class)
- Hybrid Data Converter for Transmitter
- All Digital Charged Sharing RFDAC
- Power Combination network for high-efficiency Transmitter.
- mmW Digital Power Amplifier.

Education: Hieu M. Nguyen received the B.E. degrees, M.E in Electronics Dublin, his research is focusing on and Telecommunication Engineering from Ho Chi Minh City University RF integrated circuit design. He is of Technology in 2014 and 2016, respectively. During 2013-2014, reviewer.

Current Research: Hieu Minh he joined Integrated Circuit Design Research and Education Center where he studied about Analog and RF integrated circuit design. He also received the Award of Best Student in Analog IC Design for the design of 24-Bit Delta Sigma ADC. From 2014 to 2015 he worked as a Teaching and Research Assistant at the Department of Electronics Engineering, Faculty of Electricals-Electronics Engineering, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology. From 2015 - 2017 He worked as an Analog IC Design Engineer in Uniquify where he focused on the PHY and SERDES system. He is currently pursuing Ph.D. in IoE Laboratory in University College Digital Power Amplifier, RFDAC and also serving as a JSSC and TCAS





Mohamed Shehata, PhD Student

Mohamed Shehata his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Since 2017, he has been with electrical engineering from Ain Analog Devices, Limerick, Ireland Shams University, Cairo, Egypt as an RF design engineer. His in 2009 and 2016 respectively. current research interests include He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. RF and millimeter-wave integrated degree in microelectronics from circuits and systems for wireless University College Dublin, Dublin 4, Ireland. From 2009 to 2016, he was radars. Mr. Shehata has served as with MEMS Vision, Cairo, Egypt as analog/mixed-signal IC design engineer where he was involved in designing of VCOs and PLLs. Symposium on Circuits and In 2016, he joined Xilinx, Dublin, Systems (ISCAS) since 2017.

received Ireland as analog design engineer. communications and automotive a reviewer for the IEEE European Solid-State Circuits Conference (ESSCIRC) and IEEE International



Jianglin Du, PhD Student

Current Research:

- 1. Design low-power oscillator, SAR-ADC for BLE application.
- 2. Design low-power wireless frequency synthesizer using reference-sampling digital phase locked loop.
- 3. Design grating coupler for silicon-photonic application.

Research Topics: Low-power PLL Design, low-power receiver system design.

Education: Jianglin Du received his MSc degree in Physical Electronics and BSc degree in Micro-Electronics from Jilin University, China in 2016 and 2013, respectively. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Mixed-signal Circuits Design for IoT at University College Dublin.



Yang Xu, PhD student

same time.

Research topic:

- Broadband continuous mode power amplifier design
- GaN MMIC power amplifier for 5G system
- High efficiency power amplifier with enhanced performance

Current research: RF power Education: She received her MSc amplifier design for 5G system and and BSc degrees in Electromagnetic beyond, which offers efficiency Field and Microwave Technology enhancement at the power back- at Harbin Institute of Technology, off and bandwidth extension at the China, in 2015 and 2013, respectively. She is currently pursuing her PhD degree in the RF & Microwave Research Group at University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin, Ireland.





Prof. Anding Zhu

degree in electronic engineering working as a Visiting Assistant from University College Dublin Professor at Stanford University (UCD) in 2004. He has been from January to June 2013. He is working in UCD since 2005, first currently with the RF & Microwave as a Post-doc, then a Lecturer, an Research Group at UCD and he is Associate Professor and now he is a the Director of the IoE2 Lab, a multi-Professor in the School of Electrical disciplinary research laboratory and Electronic Engineering. His focusing on developing enabling research interests are in the technologies and making scientific area of nonlinear modelling and breakthroughs for next generation characterisation of RF circuits Internet of Things (IoT) and future and systems with a particular (5G) communication networks. emphasis on digital linearisation of Prof. Zhu is a Funded Investigator in RF power amplifiers for wireless the SFI Research Centre for Future communications. He has published Networks and Communications over 100 peer-reviewed papers CONNECT, where he is particularly and received research funding from working on physical layer networkvarious sources including awards aware intelligent radio access nodes from Science Foundation Ireland in collaboration with Xilinx, Analog (SFI), European Space Agency (ESA), Enterprise Ireland (EI) and industry donations.

universities and international high-frequency non-linear circuit companies. He was appointed as a and system simulation, wireless Guest Research Fellow at University transmitter architectures, RFof Aveiro, Portugal in 2006 and DAC, digital signal processing and worked as a Visiting Scholar at nonlinear system identification University of California at San algorithms. Diego (UCSD) in 2007. Prof. Zhu

Anding Zhu received his Ph.D. was undertaking a sabbatical leave Devices, MA-COM and Synopsys.

His current research includes behavioural modelling and digital Prof. Zhu collaborates with many linearisation of RF power amplifiers,



Mr. Brian Keogh, PhD Student

Full-Duplex Radio.

Effective Self spectral efficiency for certain 5G domain response of the channel. applications.

Architecture for Full-Duplex

difficult to implement because the isolation between the transmit (TX) and receive path (RX) is not perfect. Current solutions take a

Current Research: Wideband Self copy of the TX signal and use this Interference Cancellation for 5G copy to cancel the unwanted selfinterference as shown Fig. 1.

Interference The research topics focus on novel Cancellation (SiC) is an important methods to extract time delayed consideration for future 5G radio. If copies of the TX signal so that it can be successfully implemented, advanced stochastic algorithms SiC has the potential to double can precisely match the frequency

Education: BEng (Hons) in Research Topics: Fig. 1 Radio Electronic Engineering, MSc in Computer Science.

Full-duplex operation is considered Lecturer in IT Tallaght, Department of Electronic Engineering.

> Current PhD studies are supported by UCD and SFI.





Samaneh Sadeghi Maraht, PhD Student

Current Research: My research is mainly focused on designing small size antenna with high directivity/ gain and wide bandwidth that wave range (30 GHz-300 GHz).

(Current PhD student), 2017-

K.N.Toosi University of technology (MSc), 2015

operates in the frequency of mm Guilan University (BSc), 2012

Research Topics: mm-wave antenna for high speed data transmission

Education: University College Dublin



Chenhao Chu, PhD Student

Current Research: Chenhao Chu is focused on load modulated balanced power amplifier (LMBA) architectures with high efficiency and wide dynamic range over broad bandwidth for 5G communications.

Research Topics:

- Load modulated power amplifier design
- High-efficiency MMIC power amplifier design

Education: He received the B.E. degree from the Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing,

China, in 2015, and the M.S. degree (Distinction) from the City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China, in 2017.

From Oct. 2017 to Sept. 2018, he was a Research Assistant with the State Key Laboratory of Millimeter Waves, Department of Electronic Engineering, City University of Hong Kong.

Currently, he is pursuing his Ph.D. degree in the RF & Microwave Research Group, at University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland.



Enis Kobal, PhD Student

Current Research: Compact, low- Education: [2018 – 2022 (Expected)] loss, highly efficient transceiver University College Dublin School of components design for massive MIMO systems with CMOS Doctor of Philosophy technology.

Research Topics:

His research interests are:

- mm-wave transceiver components design for 5G MIMO systems including:
- phase shifter design
- power amplifier design
- T/R switch design
- Characterisation and modelling
- mm-wave antenna design

Electrical and Electronic Engineering

[2013 – 2016] Middle East Technical University School of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Master of Science

Thesis Title: Comparative Design of Millimeter Wave RF-MEMS Phase Shifters

[2009 – 2013] Middle East Technical University School of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Bachelor of Science



Dr. Muhammad Usman

Dr. Introduction: Usman has joined the RF & Microwave Research Group at University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland, in August 2019, as a Senior Research Fellow under EDGE Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND Action. His research interests are in the area of front-end antenna system design for wireless communication devices, RF circuit design and application of RF in biomedical Engineering.

Current Research: Currently, he is working on a project titled, "PAAS-5G. Spatially Polarized MIMO Phased Array Antenna Systems for 5G Wireless Communications". The main objective of this research is to design the innovative Multiple Input multiple Output (MIMO) phased array antenna systems for mobile phones and small cell base stations, operating at mid-band (24GHz-45GHz) with reduced mutual coupling and spatial correlation. Due to a large number of antenna elements integrated in a limited space, mutual coupling and spatial correlation become severe issues in 5G front-end design. In order to research will focus on innovative spatially polarized phased arrays. 2D and 3D phased arrays will be beamforming for 5G. Reduced mutual coupling will be achieved by using meta material for designing

Muhammad Dielectric Resonant Antennas (DRAs) with substrate integrated transmission waveguide(SIW) line technique for phase shifting. Furthermore, this research will be focusing on the use of ferrite materials as substrates to integrate large number of antennas in very compact manner, with reduced mutual coupling. A novel electronic circuit will be designed and integrated, to vary the incident magnetic field on ferrite substrates to achieve the required phase shift.

Education and Previous Experience: Dr. Muhammad Usman had received his BSc in Electrical Engineering (Communication) from University of Engineering and Technology, Taxila, Pakistan in 2004 (Islamic International Engineering College, Islamabad). Later, he earned MSc and Ph.D in Radio Frequency Communication Engineering from University of Bradford, UK, in 2005 and 2009 respectively. Dr Usman joined University of Ha'il, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering in December 2009. He has been promoted to the rank of Associate reduce the spatial correlation, this Professor in Electrical Engineering at University of Ha'il, KSA in 2017. He has over nine years of teaching and research experience. He designed, to achieve the required has contributed 35 international journals/conference papers.



Tugce Kobal, PhD Student

Current Research: Intelligent [2014 – 2018] Middle East Technical Digital-Calibration Algorithms for University School of Electrical and mm-wave Transceivers

Research Topics: Her research interests are:

 Behavioural modelling of **RF** Power Amplifiers

- Linearization of RF Power Amplifiers
- Deep Learning Algorithms on Digital Predistortion

Education:

[2019 – 2023 (Expected)] University College Dublin School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering Doctor of Philosophy



Xi Chen, PhD Student

My current research is mainly on millimeter-wave frequency synthesizers for 5G and beyond.

Education: Xi Chen received the B.E degree in information engineering from Southeast University, Nanjing, China, in 2018. From Sep. 2016 to June 2018, he was involved with the design of the power amplifier in deep submicron CMOS technology, as a research intern, at the Institute of RF- & OE-ICs of Southeast University. In Sep. 2018, he joined RF & Microwave Group at University College Dublin, where he is currently pursuing his PhD degree.

Electronics Engineering Master of

Thesis Title: Dynamic Modelling

and Control of a Gimballed Airborne

Antenna Platform with Mass

[2009 – 2014] Middle East Technical

University School of Electrical and

Electronics Engineering (Major)

School of Psychology (Minor)

Unbalance and Friction

Bachelor of Science

Science



Dr. Teerachot Siriburanon

Teerachot Siriburanon received the Achievement Award in 2016, and B.E. degree in telecommunications the Tejima Research Award in 2016. International Institute of Technology IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON CIRCUIT Pathum Thani, in 2010, and the and serves as a Reviewer for the M.E. and Ph.D. degrees in physical IEEE JOURNAL OF SOLID-STATE electronics from the Tokyo Institute CIRCUITS. of Technology, Tokyo, Japan, in 2012 and 2016, respectively. In 2016, he joined University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin, Ireland, as a Post-Doctoral Researcher under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship Program. Since 2019, he has been an Assistant Professor • Waveform-shaping for lowwith UCD.

the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship, the Young Researcher Best Presentation Award at the Thailand- Japan Microwave in 2013, the ASP-DAC Best Design Award in 2014 and 2015, the IEEE SSCS Student Travel Grant Award in 2014, the IEEE SSCS Predoctoral

engineering from the Sirindhorn He has been a Guest Editor of the (SIIT), Thammasat University, AND SYSTEMS-I in 2019-2020

Research Interests:

- Clock/frequency generations exploiting waveform technology, i.e. wave-locked loop, chargesharing locking, reference waveform sampling
- phase-noise oscillators
- Dr. Siriburanon was a recipient of mm-wave transmitter/receiver for 5G communications and beyond
 - Mixed-signal circuits design for quantum computer and artificial intelligence.



Dr. Elena Blokhina

and system verification.

Research topics: design and optimisation microelectromechanical energy harvesting systems, CMOS oscillator networks, CMOS quantum computers

Research areas: Emerging applica- Qualifications: Habilitation HDR tions of circuits and systems and (equiv. D.Sc.) degree in electronic analytical and numerical methods engineering from UPMC Sorbonne for the design, analysis and simu- Universities, France; the Ph.D. lation of multi-physics micro and degree in physical and mathematical nano-scale systems and quantum sciences and the M.Sc degree electronics. My research interests in physics from Saratov State also include computer aided design University, Russia. Prof Blokhina is a Senior member of IEEE and the Chair of the IEEE Technical Committee on Nonlinear Circuits and Systems.





Dr. Deepu John

Deepu John is an Assistant Professor Research Topic: at University College Dublin. He is a • AI for IoT devices recipient of Institution of Engineers Singapore Prestigious Engineering Achievement Award (2011), Best design award at Asian Solid-State Circuit Conference (2013), IEEE Young Professionals, Region 10 individual award (2013). He served as a member of technical program committee for IEEE conferences ASICON 2015, TENCON 2016, ICTA 2020. He is a reviewer of several IEEE journals and conferences. He serves as an Associate Editor for IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Circuits and Systems, Guest Editor for IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems and IEEE Open Journal of Circuits and Systems currently. His current research includes 1) Edge AI for IoT Biomedical devices 2) Distributed AI for wearable healthcare 3) Event driven AI for IoT devices 4) Multimodal data fusion for IoT sensors. He is a senior member of the IEEE.

- Wearable Biomedical Sensors
- Biomedical Circuits and Systems
- Energy Efficient Signal Processing
- Education:
- PhD in Electrical Engineering from National University Singapore (2014)
- MSc in Electrical Engineering from National University Singapore (2008)
- B. Tech in Electronics & Communication Engineering from University of Kerala (2002)



Guoxin Wang, PhD student

Current Research: The research focus is to use one-dimension here is on the implementation of ECG-based human authentication on embedded system. Previous work achieved a high accuracy result with convolutional neural network. However, the time and space complexity of those approaches is too high to be deployed in a wearable device. The research

signal and to combine it with lowcomplexity binary network that implement real-time authentication.

Research Topics: Continuous authentication using IoT sensor.

Education: Bachelor of Engineering, Beijing University of Technology, Beijing, China (2019)



Adnan Ashraf, Masters Student

Current Research: IoT Wearable IoT Sensor Design; developing hardware and firmware of a low power ECG wearable device besides deploying the AI code to detect arrhythmia

Research Topics:

 Energy Efficient Embedded Systems • Wireless sensor networks Education: 2009: B.Eng. in Electrical Engineering, from National University

Wearables

of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan



Gawsalyan Sivapalan, Masters Student

Gawsalyan is currently a M.Eng.Sc. Student / Researcher at University College Dublin. He received his B.Sc.Eng.(HONS) degree in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering from the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka in 2016. He has also completed CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management of Accountants - UK) professional qualification. Previously, he has been working in research and business strategy development

sectors across corporate and startup companies in Sri Lanka.

His current research focuses on design and development of computationally efficient neural networks and machine learning methods for continuous monitoring of Electrocardiogram signals from a point of care device. The research will result in development of wearable solutions that make arrhythmia predictions in real time.



Maryam Saeed, PhD Student

Maryam Saeed is a PhD scholar at the University College Dublin in Electrical Engineering from and a Schlumberger Faculty for National University of Sciences and the Future Fellow. Her current research includes designing arrhythmia classifiers for low power circuits using event-driven ADCs, advanced signal processing and deep learning. She has previously training in EEG data acquisition worked on neural spike sorting for implanted brain circuits and EEG NeuroPsychology Lab, University of based biomedical applications. Oldenburg, Germany.

She received her M.S. degree Technology, Islamabad and her B.S. in Telecommunication Engineering from the National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, Lahore. She has also received and equipment handling at the



Arlene John, PhD Student

Arlene is currently a Ph.D. student at University College Dublin. Her research focuses on the development of data fusion frameworks for ambulatory health monitoring. Continuous and proactive monitoring of vital health signs using wearable sensors, outside a lab-environment, is a very attractive method for health analysis these days. However, there are several challenges involved in making wearable sensors a reality. One of the major challenges is the low quality of the signals acquired due to motion artifacts, lack of robustness due to a node failure, etc. Data fusion has emerged as a solution that can achieve improved accuracy and specific inferences over that which can be obtained using a single sensor source, as it signal processing.

can enhance the performance of a task by combining information from multiple sensor sources.

Education: B. Tech, Electrical and Electronics Engineering from National Institute of Technology, Calicut

Research Interests: Biomedical signal processing, Algorithm design, Machine Learning, Robothuman Interaction and Behavioural Economics.

Experience: Worked at Bosch India ltd in engineering and strategy development for hybrid electric vehicles.

Research Intern at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore with research focusing on statistical



Li Xiaolin, PhD Student

Education: She received her BE has yet to become a reality. One currently pursuing her Ph.D. degree with the Department of Electrical and Electrotonic Engineering, University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland.

monitoring of vital physiological signals like Electrocardiogram for early detection and preventive action is widely regarded as a not new, continuous monitoring of distributed wearable sensor data. medical-grade physiological signals

(Electronics) degree from UCD and of the major challenges involved Beijing University of Technology is the high-power consumption of in 2019. Her undergraduate major continuous wireless transmission, was Internet of Things (IoT). She is which makes the device too large for continuous use.

Her research aims to solve this problem by developing distributed machine learning technology, in which the preliminary classification Research Interests: Continuous of physiological signals is completed locally in the sensor and the rest is completed on the cloud server. (ECG), using wearable devices Wireless transmission is enabled only when it is deemed necessary. based on initial processing. The solution to the costs and risks topic is to develop powerful, associated with cardiovascular accurate, fast and low-cost methods disease. While the concept itself is for identifying arrhythmia events in



Mr. Seamus O'Driscoll, Principal Investigator

Current Research Focus: Leading Research Activities: teams across two main research • Highly integrated multistrands, in Tyndall and in MCCI - in Integrated Power Systems and in Ultra-Low Power PMIC for IoT. The integrated power systems research is primarily centred on exploiting the opportunities being presented by recent advances in both thin film cobalt based magnetics-onsilicon (tf-MoS) and in substrate embeddable magnetic materials. The ultra-low power PMIC research is centred on the challenge of bringing advanced digital control techniques to the sub-micro watt PMIC arena. This will enable advanced feature set in next generation smart sensor nodes employing ambient energy harvesting and/or achieving extremely high battery life.

- level and multi-phase POL and iVR on 180nm SOI and 28nm Bulk CMOS. These employ inductor technologies spanning Co-Zr-Ta-B tf-MoS, substrate embeddable through to air-cored at 100MHz.
- Monolithically integrated GaN HEMT switching bridges and smart gate driver circuits, employing MoS functional level galvanic isolation.
- Ultra Low Power PMIC and power-centric SoC architectures, on 180nm CMOS, for smart sensing nodes at IoT edge and wearable.
- Integrated resonant converter systems.



Gerry Mc Glinchey, Senior Researcher

Current Research: (analog / to create a variety of Nano power mixedsignal) at MCCI, Tyndall implementations of oscillators, National Institute, Cork, where he charge pumps, dynamic precision is investigating analog integrated references, extra low voltage cold circuits

Research Topics: Gerry's research interests are ultra-low power Education: MSEE from Santa Clara analog integrated circuits.

Current Research Focus: Ultra Low BE from National University of Power PMIC and associated mixed Ireland, Dublin signal circuit design techniques

start, DACs, ADCs, level shifting comparators and amplifiers.

University,California.



Ruaidhrí Murphy, PhD Student

Current Research:

- Depletion mode GaN HEMT based voltage regulator modules. GaN is a wide bandgap material capable of operating at high frequencies. GaN has the potential to reduce the footprint of voltage regulator modules for next generation electronics.
- Planar embedded inductors. Embedding the inductor within the substrate of a voltage regulator module has potential to reduce footprint and the manufacturing cost of the module. The inductor is an integral part of many power converter topologies. Research is based on analysing the

embedded inductor device and modelling it using FEA simulators such as Ansys Maxwell and Keysight ADS.

Research topics: • Point-of-load converters

- ----
- Integrated magnetics
- Planar magnetics
- GaN HEMT
- Power electronics

Education:

- Presentation Brothers
 College Cork
- University College Cork (Beng Electrical and Electronic Engineering, PG Cert ICE)



Venkata Bhumireddy, Senior Research Engineer

Current Research: Conversion Research Topics:

efficiency of the DC-DC converter is very critical which demands low energy consuming analog circuits. Various buck converter circuits are being implemented to establish the benefit of high-side NMOS over PMOS at 100MHz. Current research work focuses on the design of ultra-low energy high precision 14bit ADC for dc-dc converters which can convert multiple analog input channels to digital output. Challenges in the research are to achieve higher accuracy and guaranteed monotonicity with high speed and low energy in 180nm technology.

- Design of ultra-low power high precision Analog-to-Digital Converter (180nm CMOS)
- Design of high switching frequency, high efficiency dc-dc converters (iVR for SoC) with bootstrapped flying gate drivers (28nm CMOS).
- Design of high speed all digital-PLL with low jitter.

Education:

- 1. Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)
- 2. Master of Science (M.Sc)
- 3. Master of Technology (M.Tech)









Zoran Pavlovic, PhD Student

Highly integrated, flexible, multipleoutput, point-of-load (POL), DC-DC power management module appropriate for providing all the standard internal system voltages required in the next generation battery powered smart devices.

Research Topics:

- PMIC integrated power solution for PwrSiP application.
- Multi-level and resonant converter topologies.

- Thin film Magnetics-on-Silicon (tf-MoS) and PCB embeddable inductor technologies.
- 180nm SOI and 28nm CMOS implementations.
- 20MHz LLC Resonant Converter MoS isolated CMOS gate drivers.

Education: PhD in Power Electronics





Madhu Jacob, PhD Student

Current Research: Power Management IC design for ultralow power energy harvesting application.

Power

Research Topics:

management IC: Successfully taped out power management IC for 1uW+ applications. This was used a buck-boost architecture to satisfy wide voltage range. Efficiency was above 90% for voltage range in energy harvesting applications. Designed, completed lay-outs and verified power-path and various analog control blocks using CAD tools. Designed and implemented digital blocks through full flow from Verilog to place-and-route with Cadence Innovus.

Low Voltage Cold Start design: This Kerala, India. feature allows power management

ICs to start from low voltage. Simulated integrated circuit solutions using Tyndall fabricated thin film Magnetics-on-Silicon (MoS) transformer to achieve startup voltage from 30mV. This circuit was taped out and awaiting silicon samples. A new version of this circuit is in development to achieve 10mV startup. Both MoS and PCB embedded coldstart transformer technologies are being fabricated, characterized and electrically modelled.

Education: Master in Electronics design, University of Glasgow, Scotland.

Bachelor in Electronics and communication, Cochin University, Kerala, India.





Brendan O Sullivan, PhD Student

Current Research: Investigation & Research Topics: design of isolated smart gate driver technologies. The gate drivers are being designed for implementation on 180nm SOI and are appropriate for Wide Band Gap (WBG) devices such as Gallium Nitride (GaN) High Electron Mobility Transistors (HEMT's) to achieve high frequency & high efficiency operation. Target applications include high step-down DC-DC Point of load converters operating directly from higher voltage systems, such as 48V automotive.

- Smart Gate Driver Design
- Gallium Nitride High **Electron Mobility Transistors** - Device Modelling
- Closed Loop Control Systems
- Isolated Converter Systems

Education: Currently studying for a PhD



Dr. Pádraig Cantillon-Murphy

source electromagnetic tracking current work at MCCI and we be commercially viable.

Education: He is a Senior Lecturer in Technology (MIT).

Has developed the first open- From 2008 to 2010, he was a postdoctoral research fellow platform which can track medical with concurrent appointments at instruments with sub-millimeter Harvard Medical School, Brigham accuracy which we have chosen and Women's Hospital, Boston to make available free to the global and at the Research Laboratory of research community (http://anser. Electronics at MIT. He is principal io). Our next generation sensor investigator at the Biomedical technology will result from the Design Laboratory at UCC and Tyndall National Institute which believe it will drive the platform to explores novel device development in image-guided surgery and endoscopy.

Electrical and ElectronicEngineering His current research interests at UCC, academic member of Tyndall include magnets for surgery, National Institute & honorary electromagnetic tracking and faculty at l'Institut de Chirurgie navigation and surgical robotics. Guidée par l'Image in Strasbourg. He is module coordinator for the He has a first-class honours B.E. UCC Biomedical Design module, degree in Electrical and Electronic an awarding-winning teaching Engineering from UCC and Masters program which couples medical and of Science and Ph.D. degrees engineering students at UCC. He is at the Department of Electrical a former Marie Curie fellow (2010-Engineering and Computer Science 2014), a former MIT Whitaker fellow at Massachusetts Institute of (2007-08), and a senior member of the IEEE. He has co-founded two start-up companies and is coinventor on 6 patent applications.





Andrija Stankovic, PhD Student

Current research: Ultra low power mixed-signal circuits, digital control loop design for power management circuits used in battery life extending and energy harvesting systems (180nm CMOS). Digital MPPT circuits and impedance matching control loops for transducers such as TEG and PV.

Research topics:

- Ultra low power digital circuits design
- Control systems characterisation and design

- Multi-disciplinary system modelling
- Power electronics, CMOS circuit design.
- Education: I graduated from School of Electrical Engineering, University of Belgrade, Serbia with a Batchelor's degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering and Computer Science. Two years later, in 2017, at the same university, I completed my Master's degree in Electronics Engineering.



Herman Alexander Jaeger, Post Doc Researcher

Current Research: My work Education: BEng Hons Electrical focuses on design and development of electromagnetic navigation systems for image-guided medical interventions. The core technology allows physicians to track the locations of medical instruments within the human body without the use of cameras or radiology.

Research Topics:

- Developing electromagnetic navigation systems for non-lineof-sight tracking applications
- Characterisation and design of magnetic sensors for tracked medical instruments
- Investigating tracking algorithm and system calibration methods.



Dr. Kilian O'Donoghue, Research Fellow

Dr. Kilian O'Donoghue is an electronic engineer with over ten years experience in medical electronic design. Kilian has worked in multiple start-up and early stage medical device companies in Ireland and Canada, developing core technologies in robotics, sensing, navigation and medical imaging systems. His current research includes electromagnetic tracking systems, on-chip magnetic field sensors as well as large scale MRI hardware design.

Research topics: Electromagnetics simulations, magnetic field sensing technologies, electromagnetic tracking, data acquisition systems, medical devices

& Engineering, University College

UROP internship in The Hamlyn

Centre, Imperial College London,

MEngSc Electrical & Engineering,

PhD Electrical & Engineering,

University College Cork, 2015

University College Cork, 2018

Cork, 2014

2014

Education: Kilian graduated with a first-class honours B.E. degree (2011) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, before completing his Ph.D in Electromagnetic Tracking Systems (2014), both from University College Cork.



Manish Srivastava, PhD Student

on design and development of circuit design and worked on high Integrated Amplifier and data speed analog and digital circuit converter for electromagnetic design. I also hold 4 issued and 6 tracking system for image-guided filed US patents. Now, my interest medical instrument. The sensor in research and development allows to track the locations of medical instruments within the Converters and amplifier design. human body. Before joining here, I have worked in companies (Qualcomm and Synopsys) in the

My current research focuses field of Device Physic, Mixed Analog propelled me pursue a PHD in Data



Dr. Barry Cardiff

Current Research: Digitally-Assisted Education: Analog Design Embedded systems (mainly for Engineering from UCD. biomedical devices) Compressed sensing applications currently focused on cost & power reduction of 5G systems. Flexible waveforms for future • 1995: M.Eng.Sc in Electronic wireless communications Physical Layer Network coding in

relay systems – design and analysis

- 2011: PhD Electronic
- Thesis Title "Design Techniques for Vector Systems in Communications"
- Engineering from UCD.
- Thesis Title: "Digital Receiver Techniques in Mobile Communications"
- 1992: B.Eng in Electronic Engineering from UCD.



Mr. Armia Salib, PhD Student

Current Research: Digitally-Assisted Analog Design: We are designing new methods to augment traditional ADCs with digital techniques in order to improve the overall circuit performance. This can result in smaller, cheaper, Thesis Title: Digital Calibration for lower-power parts with equivalent conversion performance (e.g. ENOB), or conversely in high-end applications can allow very high conversion performance targets to be achieved. This work is being conducted in collaboration with local industry.

Research Topics:

Digitally-Assisted Analog Design

Education:

2014: M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering, from Ain Shams University, Egypt.

Time Interleaved Analog to Digital Converter

2007: B.Sc. in Communications & Electronics, Alexandria University, Egypt.





Dr. Brendan Mullane

data converters applications.

Professional experience: Senior Research Fellow, Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering, University of Limerick. Carrying out research and supervision/teaching roles in the VLSI design.

From 1992 to 1995, he worked with ALPS Electric (Fukushima/Japan) working on TV tuner electronics and C++ software design. From 1995 to 1996, he was with the startup Silicon Systems Design (Dublin) developing DSP core IP for highend audio applications. Prior to joining UL, he worked with the ASIC design company, LSI Logic (Tokyo/ Japan) from 1996 to 2002 as a senior IC designer developing digital ICs for DVDs and other customer applications supporting ARM cores.

Brendan Mullane joined the Research experience: During his University of Limerick (UL) in time at UL, he has been Principal 2003, after spending more than Investigator (PI) on a number of 10 years in industry, mostly as a research projects involving data VLSI designer. He received his conversion and signal processing Ph.D. in Electronic Engineering applications. He gained his Ph.D. in from UL in 2010. His current role the area of data converter built-inis Senior Research Fellow in the self test. He has received research-Dept. of Electronic and Computer funding awards from Enterprise-Engineering. To-date, he has Ireland and Science Foundation published over 35 peer-reviewed Ireland while also achieving various articles, authored one book-chapter, donations through collaborations holds 10 invention disclosures and with industry helping to train and has been granted four US patents. graduate PhD/Masters researchers. His research interests include high Dr Mullane is also a Funded performance, low-power VLSI Investigator in the SFI Research signal processing, DSP/CPU and Centre for Future Networks and Communications – CONNECT where he is working in collaboration with industry on advanced signal processing techniques to overcome noise sources in D/A converters.

He is currently with the circuits and systems research group at area of digital signal processing and UL developing technology for next generation connected Internet of Things (IoT) devices that require safety critical signal monitoring capabilities. Current research include digital assisted signalprocessing techniques for data converters, test and on-chip feature extraction and analysis. He is interested in the application of this research to areas such as integrated healthcare and brain monitoring devices.



Shantanu Mehta, Research Staff

Current Research: My current Research Topics: research is focused on dynamic 1. High-speed ADC and DAC's. element matching calibration techniques to overcome non-linear error sources in current-steering 3. Digital to Analog Converters (DACs).

The aim is to increase the design performance using digital signal processing techniques attached to the analog D/A converter design. My research activities also included design of a tri-level currentsteering D/A converter design for use in continuous time ADCs.

- Digital Signal Processing.
- Sigma Delta ADC and DAC'S.
- 4. Dynamic Element Matching Techniques.

Education:

- Currently pursuing Ph.D. in Microelectronics from University of Limerick, Ireland.
- M. Tech, VLSI Design from Vellore Institute of Technology, India.
- B.E., Electronics & Telecommunications from Walchand Institute of Technology, India.





Fotios Kostarelos, MEng student

Current Research: My research is Research Topics: focused on developing a hardware system capable for detection of brain injuries by exploiting signal processing techniques and machine 3. learning principles.

My research activities includes embedded hardware and FPGA high-level code development.

- Feature extraction. 1.
- 2. Digital Signal Processing.
- HLS coding.
- 4. Machine-learning

Education:

- Currently pursuing MEng in from University of Limerick, Ireland.
- BE/MTech, Electronic Eng. from University of Crete, Greece.



Dr. Darren Francis Kavanagh

Darren is a Lecturer, Principal and (2) advanced Condition with the Institute of Technology Carlow. He received his PhD degree embedded systems. in acoustic signal processing and machine learning (ML) methods from Trinity College Dublin, in 2011. Following this, Darren was a Postdoctoral researcher with the University of Oxford, UK. He has gained valuable academic teaching experience at the University of Oxford; Trinity College Dublin; and the Technological University Dublin. Darren also benefits greatly from industrial experience at Alcatel Lucent-Bell Laboratories, Intel, and Xilinx. He was awarded an EMBARK Scholarship (IRC) in 2006-2010 and the Minister's Silver Medal for Science from the Minister for Education (Ireland) in 2005.

Darren has a strong track record of working closely with enterprise partners on applied RDI projects typically involving applied embedded systems for solving industrial engineering problems. Broadly, his research interests encompasses 'signals and systems' and can be defined under two main research strands: (1) signal processing and machine learning (ML) methods,

Investigator & Programme Director based Monitoring (CbM) of energy for BEng Electronic Engineering conversion and propulsion systems using low-cost and low-power

Core research aims:

- Design signal processing and machine learning ML algorithms for classification, segmentation and localisation to advance autonomous and intelligent systems.
- Fundamental research questions on degradation and fault modes of energy conversion systems, with applications in electric vehicles, renewables and medical devices.
- Development of low power embedded systems for novel electronic devices, systems, machines and equipment, utilising various Internet of Things (IoT) platforms.

Projects funded by El; IRC; SFI, SEAI, Campus France and various collaborative industry partners. Currently interested in applied embedded systems for industrial applications and developing industrial-academic partnership opportunities.







Cian Madigan, PhD Student

Research Title: Cold Atmospheric Plasma Deposition of Biomolecules using Radio-Frequency (RF) Power Generators **Research Goals:**

- Advance existing knowledge and understanding of the cold atmospheric plasma deposition process;
- Explore suitable non-intrusive laboratory methods for monitoring, measurement and characterisation of RF plasma using electronic sensing apparatus;
- Optimise the parameters of the deposition system for high performance, accuracy and repeatability,

Current Research: My research involves conducting original applied electro-mechanical experiments in the laboratory, coating characterisation measurements. and parameterisation of the cold atmospheric RF plasma deposition system. BioDep is a coating process that was developed over a period of 10 years to attach drugs and biologics onto implant surfaces by Theradep Ltd. Arising out of plasma technology that was initially created for the textile industry, it has been

developed to bond materials to implant surfaces and labware. When applied to an implant surface, the plasma can sterilise, clean and produce chemical bonding sites on the metal or polymer surfaces. The therapeutic materials are then sprayed onto the reactive implant surface where they instantly cure to form a thin film coating. This novel electro-mechanical coating device will require novel nonintrusive electronic based sensing to optimise an extremely sensitive process.

Research Topics:

- RF Powered Cold Atmospheric **Plasma Devices**
- Applied Research in Plasma Medicine for Wound Healing
- Proof of Concept Designs and Experiments with Electro-Mechanical Apparatus
- Non-intrusive Electronic Sensing and Monitoring of the Plasma Process
- Education: Bachelor (Hons) Engineering Degree with First Class Honours in Mechanical Engineering, Institute of Technology Carlow. 2018





Eoghan Chelmiah, PhD Student

Research Area: Advanced Machine Research Topics: Learning (ML) Methods for Energy **Conversion Systems**

Research Title: "Machine Learning Methods for Electric Machines used in Electric Propulsion Systems"

Research Goals: Developing new knowledge and understanding for the advancement and design of robust electric machines that prevents premature aging occurring and unexpected catastrophic failure modes occurring in critical applications and systems.

Current Research: My research is primarily based around investigating and developing novel methods of failure diagnostics and prognostics for industrial electric machines, using data-driven machine learning approaches. My work focuses on improving and optimising advanced Condition based Monitoring (CbM) methods for future generation electric propulsion systems.

- Remaining Useful Life (RUL) estimation for rotating machines by performing a time-frequency analysis on vibration signals from accelerometers
- Investigating novel methods of feature extraction and classification using a combination of supervised and unsupervised Machine Learning (ML) approaches.
- Novel sensing approaches, analogue front end (AFE) circuits and state of the art System on Chips (SoC) for applied embedded systems.
- Education: First class B.Eng (Hons) degree in Electronic Systems Engineering from the Institute of Technology Carlow in 2019.





| Jason Hannon | 2012 | Yan Guo | 2017 |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|------|
| Jan Kubik | 2012 | Kevin McGrath | 2017 |
| Ray Foley | 2012 | Noel Kelly | 2017 |
| Aidan Keady | 2012 | Yuting Wei | 2017 |
| Lorenzo Mereni | 2013 | Valerio Marotta | 2017 |
| Vamshi Manthena | 2014 | Muhammad Asfand | 2017 |
| Maurice Egan | 2014 | Shiyu "Steve" Zhou | 2017 |
| Lei Guan | 2014 | Hongjia Mo | 2017 |
| Greg Szczepkowski | 2015 | David Quilligan | 2017 |
| Diarmuid Collins | 2015 | Anil Jain | 2017 |
| Alberto Gola | 2015 | Mario Conti | 2017 |
| Francesco Brandonisio | 2015 | Cian O'Mahony | 2017 |
| Rishi Singh | 2015 | Karine Mnatsakanyan | 2018 |
| Mark Barry | 2015 | Mahsa Keshavarz Hedavati | 2018 |
| Hsin-Ta Wu | 2015 | Alberto Dicataldo | |
| Colm Murphy | 2015 | Anu Pillai | 2018 |
| Khosrov Sadeghipour | srov Sadeghipour 2015 Kathy Hanley Pedro Paro Fi | | 2018 |
| Giuseppe Macera | | | 2018 |
| Girish Waghmare | 2016 | lan Assom | |
| Ken Ahern | 2016 | Savatore Galeone | 2018 |
| Charles Perumal | 2016 | Filippo Schembari | 2019 |
| Jianghai He | 2016 | Mark Smyth | 2019 |
| Dimitris Kyritsis | 2016 | Vaibhay Paynaskar | 2019 |
| Sohail Asghar | 2016 | Sean Philips | 2019 |
| Sohaib Afridi | 2016 | Stefano Facchin | 2019 |
| Andrew Malone | 2016 | James McCarthy | 2019 |
| Mengsu Yang | 2016 | Jeff Waling | 2019 |
| Niamh Costello | 2016 | Armia Salib-Farag | 2019 |
| Paolo Scognamiglio | 2017 | Naser | 2010 |
| Stefano Tulisi | 2017 | Pourmousavian | 2019 |
| | | | |

| | Matthew Agnew | 2020 |
|---|----------------------------|------|
| _ | Xutong Wu | 2020 |
| | Hongying Wang | 2020 |
| - | Niamh Creedon | 2020 |
| - | Feifei Zhang | 2020 |
| _ | Vivek Govindaraj | 2020 |
| - | Dennis M Andrade Miceli | 2020 |
| | Michael Pastoril | 2020 |
| _ | Ali EsmailiyanIs | 2020 |
| - | Donnacha O'Riordan | 2020 |

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

MCCI RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Highlight Publications

- 1. B. Staszewski, P. Giounanlis, A. Esmailiyan, H. Wang, I. Bashir, C. Cetintepe, D. Andrade-Miceli, M. Asker, D. Leipold, T. Siriburanon, A. Sokolov and E. Blokhina, "Position-based CMOS charge qubits for scalable quantum processors at 4K", ISCAS, Oct. 2020
- 2. P. Giounanlis, A. Sokolov, E. Blokhina, I. Bashir, D. Leipold and R. B. Staszewski, "Electrostatic control and entanglement of CMOS position-based qubits," ISCAS, Oct. 2020
- 3. S. Binsfeld-Ferreira and R. B. Staszewski, "Design of Ultra-Low-Power Discrete-time Receivers for the Internet of Things", Mini- 13. R. B. Staszewski, "Beyond All-Digital PLL tutorial (2-hrs), MT-3b, ISCAS, Oct. 2020
- 4. Bozorg, R. B. Staszewski, "A 0.02-4.5-GHz LN(T)A in 28-nm CMOS for 5G Exploiting Noise Reduction and Current Reuse", JSSC. Sep 2020.
- 5. R. B. Staszewski, Y. Hu, and T. Siriburanon, "Digital PLLs for Millimeter Wave - A Tutorial," Workshop (1.5-hr) presented at Virtual Educational Workshop 4: New 5G integration solutions, and related technologies, ESSCIRC, Sept. 2020
- 6. Esmailiyan, H. Wang, M. Asker, E. Koskin, D. Leipold, I. Bashir, K. Xu, A. Koziol, E. Blokhina, and R. B. Staszewski, "A fully 16. H. Wang, F. Schembari, and R. B. Staszewski, integrated DAC for CMOS position-based charge gubits with single-electron detector loopback testing", SSC-L, Aug 2020
- 7. Chevella, S, O'Hare, D and O'Connell, 17. Chen P, Zhang F, Zong Z, Hu S, Siriburanon I., "A Low-Power 1-V Supply Dynamic Comparator", SSC-L, Aug 2020
- 8. X. Chen, Y. Hu, T. Siriburanon, J. Du, R. B. Staszewski, and A. Zhu, "A tiny reduction using a triple-8-shaped transformer", SSC-L, July 2020
- 9. J. Du, T. Siriburanon, Y. Hu, V. Govindaraj,

and R. B. Staszewski, "A 2.0-2.87GHz -249dB FoM 1.1 mW digital PLL exploiting reference-sampling phase detector", SSC-L, July 2020

- 10. Fordymacka et al, "A 0.01mm2 0.83V Input Range SAR Based Bridge-to-Digital Converter", SSC-L, 2020
- 11. G. M. Salgado, D. O'Hare, and I. O'Connell, "Modeling and Analysis of Error Feedback Noise-Shaping SAR ADCs", ISCAS, May 2020
- 12. John, B. Cardiff, D. John, "A Generalized Signal Quality Estimation Method for IoT Sensors", ISCAS, May 2020
- for RF and Millimeter-Wave Frequency Synthesis," Workshop presentation (1.5-hr) at Educational Session 2: Phase-Locked Loops, CICC, Mar. 2020
- 14. S. Hu, J. Du, P. Chen, H. M. Nguyen, P. Quinlan, B. Staszewski, "A Type-II Phase-Tracking Receiver", (JSSC), Feb 2020
- 15. Y. Hu, X. Chen, T. Siriburanon, J. Du, Z. Gao, V. Govindaraj, A. Zhu, R. B. Staszewski, "A 21.7-26.5GHz Charge-Sharing Locking Quadrature PLL with Implicit Digital Frequency Tracking Loop Achieving 75fs Jitter and -250dB FoM", (ISSCC), Feb 2020
- "An event-driven quasi-level-crossing delta modulator based on residue quantization." (JSSC), Nov 2019
- T, Staszewski RB, "A 31-µ W, 148-fs Step. 9-bit Capacitor-DAC-Based Constant-Slope Digital-to-Time Converter in 28-nm CMOS", (JSSC), Nov 2019
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