

# Steven M. Hernandez, Ph.D.

stevenmhernandez.com  
me@stevenmhernandez.com  
hernandezsm@vcu.edu

[scholar.google.com/citations?user=JklrgpEAAAAJ](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=JklrgpEAAAAJ)  
[github.com/stevenmhernandez](https://github.com/stevenmhernandez)  
[linkedin.com/in/stevenmhernandez](https://www.linkedin.com/in/stevenmhernandez)

## EDUCATION

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### Virginia Commonwealth University

Richmond, VA

*Ph.D. Computer Science*

2018-2023

*Dissertation: "WiFi Sensing at the Edge Towards Scalable On-Device Wireless Sensing Systems"*

*Advisor: Eyuphan Bulut*

### Virginia Commonwealth University

Richmond, VA

*B.S. Computer Science*

2016 – 2018

## ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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### Google

June 2023 - Present

*Research Scientist*

### Mobile and Wireless Networking Group (MoWiNG) Lab

August 2018 - May 2023

*Graduate Research Assistant - Edge WiFi Sensing*

### Google

June 2022 - August 2022

*Research Scientist Intern - On-Device Speech Recognition and Model Compression*

### Facebook

May 2020 - August 2020

*Ph.D. Software Engineering Intern - Spatial Computing, AR/VR*

### Mobile and Wireless Networking Group (MoWiNG) Lab

May 2017 - August 2018

*Undergraduate Research Assistant - App Development*

### Foster Made

July 2016 - August 2018

*Software Developer - Back-End and Front-End Application Development*

### Spark Product Development

May 2016 - September 2017

*Research and Development (Freelance) - Internet of Things (IoT)*

### CoolerTags

August 2014 - March 2016

*Software Developer - Back-End and Front-End Application Development*

## AWARDS

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### Fellowship: NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program

2018 – 2023

*(15% acceptance rate)*

### Assistantship: Graduate School Dissertation Assistantship

January 2023 – May 2023

*Virginia Commonwealth University, Graduate School*

### Award: Outstanding Dissertation Award

April 2024

*Virginia Commonwealth University, College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science*

*"WiFi Sensing at the Edge Towards Scalable On-Device Wireless Sensing Systems"*

**Award: Outstanding Paper Award** April 2023  
*Virginia Commonwealth University, College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science*  
*“WiFi Sensing on the Edge: Signal Processing Techniques and Challenges for Real-World Systems”*

**Award: Outstanding Paper Award** May 2022  
*Virginia Commonwealth University, College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science*  
*“WiFederated: Scalable WiFi Sensing using Edge Based Federated Learning”*

**Award: Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award** April 2022  
*Virginia Commonwealth University, College of Engineering*

**Award: Best Demo Paper Award** March 2020  
*IEEE Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom 2020)*  
*“Performing WiFi Sensing with Off-the-shelf Smartphones”*

**Grant: IEEE Travel/Conference Grant** February 2023  
*IEEE Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom 2023)*

**Grant: IEEE Travel/Conference Grant** March 2020  
*IEEE Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom 2020)*

#### INVITED TALKS/LECTURES

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**Edge Learning and Collaboration in Mobile Sensor Networks:** CMSC 628 Mobile Networks Lecture, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, USA, April 2023

**Edge WiFi Sensing: Improving Scalability through TinyML and Edge Learning:** **Invited Talk for Google ATAP (Advanced Technology and Projects) Group**, Mountain View, California, USA, September 2022

**Sharing Low Rank Conformer Weights for Tiny Always-On Ambient Speech Recognition Models:** Google Assistant - Speech Recognition, Mountain View, California, USA, September 2022

**Practical Introduction to Machine Learning:** Foster Made, Richmond, Virginia, USA, August 2018

**Internet of Things for Engineers:** Spark Product Development, LCC, Richmond, Virginia, USA, June 2017

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/POSTERS

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**Sharing Low Rank Conformer Weights for Tiny Always-On Ambient Speech Recognition Models:** PerCom 2023, Rhodes, Greece, June 2023

**WiFi Sensing at the Edge to Improve the Scalability of Wireless Sensing Systems:** Dissertation Final Defense, Richmond, Virginia, United States, April 2023

**Poster: Elderly Community Health Tracking with WiFi Sensing – Interdisciplinary Work:** VCU Nursing Research, UNlocking New Collaborations, Richmond, Virginia, United States, April 2023

**Scheduled Spatial Sensing against Adversarial WiFi Sensing:** PerCom 2023, Atlanta, Georgia, United States, March 2023

**WiFi Sensing at the Edge to Improve the Scalability of Wireless Sensing Systems:** Dissertation Proposal, Richmond, Virginia, United States, June 2022

**Online Stream Sampling for Low-Memory On-Device Edge Training for WiFi Sensing:** WiseML 2022, Austin, Texas, United States, May 2022

**Poster: Securing WiFi Sensing Against Eavesdroppers:** CCI Symposium 2022, Richmond, Virginia, United States, April 2022

**Towards Dense and Scalable Soil Sensing Through Low-Cost WiFi Sensing Networks:** LCN 2021, Edmonton, Canada, October 2021

**Adversarial Occupancy Monitoring using One-Sided Through-Wall WiFi Sensing:** ICC 2021, Montreal, Canada, June 2021

**Lightweight and Standalone IoT based WiFi Sensing for Active Repositioning and Mobility:** WoWMoM 2020, Cork, Ireland, September 2020

**Performing WiFi Sensing with Off-the-shelf Smartphones:** PerCom 2020, Austin, Texas, United States, March 2020

**TrinaryMC: Monte Carlo based Anchorless Relative Positioning for Indoor Positioning:** CCNC 2020, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States, January 2020

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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### Mentorship and Leadership :

Undergraduate (×7): Deniz Erdag, Saumya Trivedi, Josh Foster, Rachel William, Dimayri Romero, Fatma Saafan, Sekai Clayton.

Graduate (Masters) (×1): Bret Dereski.

Graduate (Ph.D.) (×2): Md. Touhiduzzaman, Soumita Ghosh.

### Conference/Journal Reviewer:

2024 (×1): IEEE PerCom (×1).

2023 (×9): IEEE WoWMoM (×2), IEEE Internet of Things Journal (×1), IEEE Access (×1), IEEE Transactions on Artificial Intelligence (×1), IEEE ASRU (×1), IEEE PerCom (×2), IEEE Wireless Communications Letters (×1).

2022 (×12): IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing (×2), IEEE Communications Magazine (×1), Elsevier Computer Networks Journal (×1), IEEE Access (×1), ACM WiSec WiseML (×4), IEEE ICC (×1), IEEE WoWMoM (×2).

2021 (×2): IEEE Access (×1), IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications (×1).

2020 (×1): IEEE WoWMoM (×1).

2019 (×1): IEEE VTC2019 (×1).

**Seminar Coordination:** 2 Invited Speakers: Research Scientist, Industry (×1), Academic (×1).

## OPEN SOURCE

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**StevenMHernandez/ESP32-CSI-Tool:** > 150 stars, 50 forks, 5 contributors. (owner)

**StevenMHernandez/Android-CSI-Labelling-App:** > 15 stars, 5 forks. (owner)

**StevenMHernandez/Android-ESP32-CSI:** > 10 stars, 5 forks. (owner)

**StevenMHernandez/Survero:** (owner)

**tensorflow/lingvo:** 1 commit (contributor)

## MISCELLANEOUS - ART INSTALLATION

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**Series: ROBOS (2015-2023):** Personal Project - Online [↗](#)

**Electronic Window Display (2017):** Foster Made - Richmond, Virginia [↗](#)

**Glitch Wall (2015):** Community Room, Dog Days - 1708 Gallery - Richmond, Virginia [↗](#)

**Arduino Projection Mapping (2015):** Virginia Commonwealth University - Richmond, Virginia [↗](#)

**Interactive Pi Portrait (2014):** Community Room, This One's For You - Gallery 5 - Richmond, Virginia [↗](#)

**Interactive Portrait Online (2014):** Global - Online [↗](#)

## CONFERENCE AND JOURNAL PAPERS

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- [1] **S. M. Hernandez**, D. Zhao, S. Ding, A. Bruguier, R. Prabhavalkar, T. N. Sainath, Y. He, and I. McGraw, "Sharing Low Rank Conformer Weights for Tiny Always-On Ambient Speech Recognition Models," in *2023 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP) (Work completed during Google Research Internship)*, Rhodes, Greece, Jun. 2023.
- [2] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, "Scheduled Spatial Sensing against Adversarial WiFi Sensing," in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom 2023) (CORE A\*)*, Atlanta, USA, Mar. 2023.
- [3] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, "WiFi Sensing on the Edge: Signal Processing Techniques and Challenges for Real-World Systems," *IEEE Communications Surveys & Tutorials (IF: 33.840)*, 2023, **Awarded Outstanding Paper Award - 2023 - VCU Computer Science Department**.
- [4] **S. M. Hernandez**, M. Touhiduzzaman\*, P. E. Pidcoe and E. Bulut, "Wi-pt: Wireless sensing based low-cost physical rehabilitation tracking," in *IEEE International Conference on E-health Networking, Application & Services (HealthCom), Genoa, Italy, 2022*.
- [5] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, "Online Stream Sampling for Low-Memory On-Device Edge Training for WiFi Sensing," in *Proceedings of the 4th ACM Workshop on Wireless Security and Machine Learning (WiseML 2022)*, Austin, Texas, United States, May 2022.
- [6] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, "WiFederated: Scalable WiFi Sensing using Edge Based Federated Learning," *IEEE Internet of Things Journal*, 2022, **Awarded Outstanding Paper Award - 2022 - VCU Computer Science Department**.
- [7] **S. M. Hernandez**, D. Erdag\*, and E. Bulut, "Towards Dense and Scalable Soil Sensing Through Low-Cost WiFi Sensing Networks," in *2021 IEEE 46th Conference on Local Computer Networks (LCN 2021)*, Edmonton, Canada, Oct. 2021.
- [8] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, "Adversarial Occupancy Monitoring using One-Sided Through-Wall WiFi Sensing," in *2021 IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC): IoT and Sensor Networks Symposium (IEEE ICC'21 - IoTSN Symposium)*, Montreal, Canada, Jun. 2021.
- [9] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, "Using perceived direction information for anchorless relative indoor localization," *Journal of Network and Computer Applications*, vol. 165, p. 102714, 2020.

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\* Indicates mentored student.

- [10] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, “Lightweight and Standalone IoT based WiFi Sensing for Active Repositioning and Mobility,” in *21st International Symposium on “A World of Wireless, Mobile and Multimedia Networks” (WoWMoM 2020)*, Cork, Ireland, Jun. 2020.
- [11] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, “Performing WiFi Sensing with Off-the-shelf Smartphones,” in *PerCom Demos 2020: 18th Annual IEEE International Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications Demonstrations (PerCom Demos 2020)*, Austin, USA, Mar. 2020, **Awarded Best Demo Award**.
- [12] **S. M. Hernandez** and E. Bulut, “TrinaryMC: Monte Carlo Based Anchorless Relative Positioning for Indoor Positioning,” in *2020 IEEE 17th Annual Consumer Communications & Networking Conference (CCNC 2020)*, Las Vegas, USA, Jan. 2020.
- [13] E. Bulut, **S. M. Hernandez**, A. Dhungana, and B. K. Szymanski, “Is Crowdcharging Possible?” in *2018 27th International Conference on Computer Communication and Networks (ICCCN 2018)*. IEEE, 2018, pp. 1–9.