



Wei Zhang

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, UNC Chapel Hill

Wei Zhang is an assistant professor at the Dept of Physics and Astronomy at UNC Chapel Hill. He received his BS in Physics in Peking University, Beijing, China and PhD in Materials Science at the University of Washington - Seattle. He was a recipient of the IEEE Magnetics Society Early Career Award in 2016, and the NSF Early Career Award in 2020. Currently, Wei Zhang serves as a member of the Technical Committee of IEEE MagSoc and the chair of the IEEE MagSoc NC Local Chapter (Region 3). His area of expertise is magnetic materials, spintronics, and magnonics.



Dr. Priya Raghuraman, P.E.

Systems Engineering Professional, Siemens Industry; Ph.D., NC State University

Priya Raghuraman was born in Mumbai, India. She received her B.Tech. in Electrical Engineering from VJTI, Mumbai (2016) and her M.S. in Electrical Power Systems Engineering from North Carolina State University (2017). She joined Siemens Industry in 2018, where she works as a Systems Engineering Professional in the Protection & Automation Innovations team. She defended her Ph.D. in July 2025 at NC State and is expected to graduate in December 2025. Her doctoral research focuses on the integration of inverter-based resources into distribution systems, with emphasis on low-voltage ride-through strategies and the application of 5G URLLC for wide-area protection. During her Ph.D., she authored multiple peer-reviewed publications and contributed to IEEE standards through active participation in the Power System Relaying Committee (PSRC). Her work has been recognized with honors including Young Energy Professional of the Year (Association of Energy Engineers) and Doctoral Scholar of the Year (ECE, NC State). She has been a registered Professional Engineer in North Carolina since May 2022.



Karan Goenka

Security Leader, Amazon; Formerly Arctic Wolf Networks, AWS ProServe, IBM

Karan Goenka is a cybersecurity leader with a decade of experience, currently working in Amazon Security. His expertise spans cloud and application security, developed through key roles at Arctic Wolf Networks, AWS Professional Services, and IBM Enterprise Security. A Northeastern University graduate in Information Security, he specializes in secure development lifecycle implementation and enterprise cloud security transformations.



Ajay Kumar

Principal FPGA Engineer & Architect, Keysight Technologies

Ajay Kumar is an R&D; Principal FPGA Engineer and seasoned architect at Keysight Technologies, with 20+ years in the electronics and communication industry. He has researched and developed cutting-edge measurement solutions used by researchers and industry professionals worldwide, including the O-RAN Distributed Unit (O-DU) emulator, MIMO and massive MIMO solutions, a 5G NR UE emulator, and Wi-Fi 6 solutions for O-RAN, 5G NR, and Wi-Fi. He has also contributed to digitizers, arbitrary waveform generators, and bit error ratio testers in RF and high-speed digital measurement domains. Previously, he worked on display technologies at Samsung India and on telecommunication products at Indian Telephone Industries. He holds an invention disclosure and has authored trade-journal articles. He has received awards for key innovations showcased at design conferences and featured in industry publications. Ajay holds an M.Tech. in Integrated Electronics & Circuits (IIT Delhi), a PG Diploma in IT (IIIT Hyderabad), and a B.E. in Electronics & Telecommunication (NIT Silchar).