

Deniz Acikbas

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EDUCATION

University of Michigan-Dearborn

PhD in Computer Science, GPA: **4.00**

Dearborn, MI
Expected Graduation April 2030

University of Michigan-Dearborn

Bachelor of Science in Computer Software Engineering, GPA: **3.36**

Dearborn, MI
Graduated in April 2025

COURSEWORK: Artificial Intelligence, Deep Learning, Immersive Computing and Digital Twins, Trustworthy AI

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT), Human-Computer Interaction, Computer Vision

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan-Dearborn

Graduate Student Research Assistant

Dearborn, MI
August 2025 – Present

- Managed six research teams consisting of 3D designers, mechanical engineers, and software engineers.
- Served as a reviewer for papers submitted to IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing and ICNC.
- Submitted four papers to top HCI, Sensing and AI conferences.
- Received acceptance for RoFin in IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing and TIVN in ACM Computing Surveys.

University of Michigan-Dearborn

Undergraduate Student Research Assistant

Dearborn, MI
October 2024 – August 2025

- Assisted the professor in establishing the research lab.
- Organized and hosted four workshops and presented six research papers.
- Managed three research teams composed of mechanical and software engineers.
- Submitted one journal article and one survey, both of which received revisions.

PUBLICATIONS

- Zhang X, **Acikbas D**, Naik S, Mourtada Z, Raj A, "Privacy-Protected Hand Pose Reconstruction and Air Writing via Rolling Spheres" IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing, 2025
- Zhang X, Madhankumar N, Raval R, **Acikbas D**, Wang J, Song Z, Lei X, Zhang D, "Trustworthy Intelligent Vehicular Networks: A Survey" ACM Computing Surveys, 2025 (Ongoing)

EXTERNAL REVIEWS: IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing 2026, IEEE ICNC 2026

WORK EXPERIENCE

Applied Automation Technologies, Inc.

Software Engineer Intern

Rochester Hills, MI
May 2024 – August 2024

- Evaluated 9 automation tools, scripted tests, and proposed TestComplete as the top choice.
- Created 8 UML diagrams and documented 58 C++ and C# classes in CAPPS DMIS and CAPPS NC projects.
- Improved performance by refactoring code from if-else to switch in 4 classes, optimizing 200 global variables and 38 methods, fixing a database bug, and redesigning the connection dialog using C++, C#, MFC, and Windows Forms.
- Advanced expertise in MFC and C++, with hands-on experience in TestComplete and Ranorex.

Epitec, Inc.

Software Developer Intern

Southfield, MI
May 2022 – July 2022

- Achieved 11 training modules on EF Core, ASP.NET Web API, ASP.NET Core, Swagger, Postman, xUnit, JSON, and Blazor.
- Developed a suite of task templates and automated features for Epilink.BusinessProcess, enhancing communication and task assignment for recruiters, benefiting 15+ active contract-based positions monthly.
- Gained hands-on experience in full-stack development using 10+ technologies, including SQL, C#, JSON, Microsoft SQL Server, ASP.NET Web API, ASP.NET Core, Swagger, Postman, Blazor, Git, and Azure DevOps.

PROGRAMMING & SOFTWARE SKILLS: PyTorch, OpenCV, LangChain, LangGraph, C++, C#, Java, Python, Kotlin, JavaScript, PHP, SQL, JSON, XML, XAML, HTML, CSS, EF Core, REST API, ASP.NET Web API, React, Android Studio, ASP.NET Core, Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL, Blazor, Windows Forms, WPF, UWP, MFC, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, xUnit, Postman, Swagger, Katalon Studio, TestComplete, Ranorex, Git, GitHub, Google Colab, Azure, PowerShell, GNU/Linux, Overleaf

LANGUAGES: Proficient in English and Turkish, Beginner in German

ADVISOR

- Xiao Zhang, Ph.D – Assistant Professor (zhanxiao@umich.edu)