



**Mr. Tian Ma**

*Principal Member of the Research & Development/Science & Engineering Staff  
Sandia National Laboratories*

Asian American  
Most Promising  
Engineer  
of the Year  
Award

Tian Ma is a Principal Member of the Research & Development/Science & Engineering Staff working at Sandia National Laboratories. He is a leading innovator in data analysis, data processing, and data exploitation where he has over 12 years of experience in developing innovative, practical, and robust algorithms for a class of remote sensing systems; especially in the nuclear nonproliferation arena. He has implemented and delivered numerous real-time mission capabilities for a class of remote sensing systems that are of national importance to the security of the United States. He is recognized as a key expert in detection algorithms and a pioneer in the field of tracking systems where he has innovated and delivered state-of-the-art detection and tracking algorithms to these systems. His research solutions are not simply theoretical constructions in literature, but have been realized and engineered into real-world applications.

Tian was a technical lead on several government-funded projects where he led and transitioned important capabilities to operational systems. He was also a Principal Investigator of two Internal Research and Development (IRAD) projects at Sandia over the past 6 years, and his research resulted in new advanced capabilities that were integrated into national remote sensing assets.

Tian's research advancement has received continuous funding from government sponsors for operational transition. His sphere of influence has spread to multiple mission-critical programs. His work and expertise is highly recognized in the remote sensing communities, and he has presented his work at technical forums and multiple conferences.

Tian was the recipient of Sandia's Up and Coming Innovator Award in 2014. Tian currently has one U.S. patent issued; two U.S. patents pending, three technical advances, and three SAND Report publications. He has a B.S. in Computer Engineering (2003) and a M.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering (2004) from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a M.B.A. in Management of Technology (2015) from the University of New Mexico.

