Mobile device data continues to increase in significance in criminal investigations. Location data is often of particular interest. To date, research has established that the devices are location aware, incorporate a variety of resources to obtain location information, and cache the information in various ways. However, a review of the existing research introduces questions regarding the reliability of any such recovered location data. In an effort to clarify the issue, this project will offer case studies of multiple Android mobile devices utilized in controlled conditions with known settings and applications in documented locations, with a view to developing a strategy for recovery of device location data as well as a means of evaluating the reliability of any such recovered data. Emerging trends in device security and cloud storage may have significant implications for future mobile device location data recovery and analysis.

Major: Digital Forensics

Educational Career:
Bachelor’s of Anthropology, BA, 2004, University of Florida

Committee in Charge:
Sheau—Dong Lang, Chair, Computer Science
Ratan Guha, Computer Science department
Cliff Zou, Computer Science department

Approved for distribution by Sheau-Dong Lang, Committee Chair, on November 3, 2015.

The public is welcome to attend.