Announcing the Final Examination of Luis Manuel Rodriguez Cordoves for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Time & Location: November 3, 2017 at 10:00 AM in Harris Engineering Center 450
Title: Multi-Transit Echo Suppression for Passive Wireless Surface Acoustic Wave Sensors Using 3rd Harmonic Unidirectional Transducers and Walsh-Hadamard-Like Reflectors

A Passive wireless surface acoustic wave sensor of a delay-line type is composed of an antenna, a transducer that converts the EM signal into a surface acoustic wave, and a set of acoustic reflectors that reflect the incoming signal back out through the antenna. A cavity forms between the transducer and the reflectors, trapping energy and causing multiple unwanted echoes. The work in this dissertation aims to reduce the unwanted echoes so that only the main transit signal is left—the signal of interest with sensor information.

The contributions of this dissertation include:
- Echo suppression description in the form of IIR filter
- Optimized single phase unidirectional transducer (SPUDT) for 3rd harmonic operation
- Walsh Hadamard-like reflectors for pulse shaping, coding, and orthogonality
  - Synthesized with high reflectivity reflectors
  - Two types, equal length and varied length chips
- Fabricated wireless SAW device with optimized echo suppression for passive sensor applications
  - Tunable antenna enables tuning of device

Major: Electrical Engineering

Educational Career:
Bachelor’s of Electrical Engineering, BS, 2004, University of Central Florida
Master’s of Electrical Engineering, MS, 2014, University of Central Florida

Committee in Charge:
Prof. Donald Malocha, Chair, Electrical Engineering
Arthur Weeks, Electrical Engineering Department, UCF
Jim Moharam, School of Optics, CREOL, at UCF
Reza Abdovland, Electrical Engineering Department, UCF
Robert Youngquist, NASA Scientist

Approved for distribution by Prof. Donald Malocha, Committee Chair, on October 9, 2017.

The public is welcome to attend.