

# Vidya Ganapati

**Graduate Institution:** University of California-Berkeley

**Graduate Discipline:** Electrical Engineering

**Hometown:** Portland, OR

**Relevant SC Research:** Advanced Scientific Computing Research



## Research Interest:

My research interests include renewable energy, especially photovoltaics. I'm interested in the optical design of solar cells, and I currently work on a computational optimization project to design a surface texture for a solar cell of nanometer scale thickness to enhance absorption. I'm also interested in using optical design concepts to increase the open circuit voltage in cells with multiple materials of varying bandgaps. Other than photovoltaics, I'm interested in smart grid design needed for a higher renewable energy load.

## About Me:

I completed my undergraduate education at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and am currently a graduate student in the Yablonovitch group at the University of California, Berkeley. In the past, I've interned at the IBM Almaden Research Center and the Fraunhofer Institute for Mechanics of Materials in Halle, Germany. Outside of research, I am an instructor for a program called Technovation, in which teams of high school girls develop mobile phone application prototypes, learning about careers in technology and entrepreneurship.



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