

The Department of Computer Science

Lei Qian

"I am currently a masters student at the Department of Computer Science at The University of Auckland. I graduated in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. After one year working in IT industry as a system administrator, I realized that I was really interested in the fields of networking and the internet. I feel proud of myself because I have been able to get networks up and running 24/7. I decided to come back to university to take up postgraduate study because I really enjoy Computer Science and also because some career areas do require further study.

Five years of university life has not only given me new knowledge, but also an amazing opportunity to investigate new technologies. I really appreciate the staff in the department that have helped me when I was stuck, and even when I felt stressed about my study. When I had programming problems, tutors were available to help me keep me on the right track.

I started doing my research since last year with my supervisor, Professor Brian Carpenter, and I have learned a lot from him, not only academically, but also the right attitude to do research. He tells me "As a computer scientist never predicts the result before he gets the evidence (statistics)." He also says "Never cross a bridge before you get it". These words will guide me throughout my lifetime.

For my masters research, I am analysing multiple years' network traces in order to measure the quality of service of the University campus network. As more and more applications are now migrating through the internet, such as voice applications (Voice over IP), video conferences and so on, it is important to guarantee their service quality. I intend to find out the differences in factors such as delay and data loss rate through the different years' network trace data. These measurement statistics should be valuable to any Internet Service Provider or other organizations to improve their internet service quality."

