

Lemelson ILLINOIS

STUDENT PRIZE

Finalist **2009**

JOHN WRIGHT

*Graduate Student
Electrical & Computer
Engineering
College of Engineering*

John has developed new mathematical tools that drastically improve the accuracy of facial recognition systems such as those used at Boston's Logan airport, the 2001 Superbowl, and by the Tampa, Florida police department. John has demonstrated that this facial recognition system exhibits unprecedented robustness and stability under natural variations in face images, due to illumination, pose, occlusion, etc. This system achieves a recognition rate of 91.4%, more than 13% better than its nearest competitor.



ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN