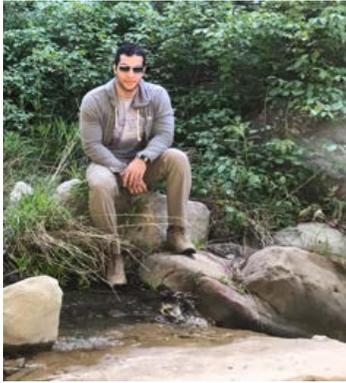


Alumni Profile

Behzad Samavaty – Electrical Engineering PhD Program



Career

Please provide a brief overview of your career path since graduating from UCI.

During my final year at UCI I interned at NXP Semiconductors in Chandler, Arizona. I joined Broadcom Inc. as an Integrated Circuit designer in March 2018 soon after I completed my PhD. I design high-performance, Multi-Gig transceiver circuits for autonomous driving.

What made you get into the career that you are in?

I have been always eager to solve problems, particularly the ones related to real life applications due to their greater impact. Growing up, I worked alongside my older brother, Mehrdad, in our home's small electronics lab. This hobby gave me the opportunity to pursue my curiosity in electronics. Joining graduate school and completing several industry-driven research projects along with multiple internships in advanced semiconductor companies helped me find my way into my current career.

Your Time at UCI

When did you attend UCI?

Fall 2013

What program were you in?

Optics and Electronic Devices and Circuits

Why did you choose to come to UCI?

My main motivation in joining graduate school was to gain the means to solve more advanced problems and ultimately pursue the real life application of these problem-solving skills. I chose UCI because of its top rated graduate programs in engineering and a long history of collaboration with some of the world's leading tech companies.

Reflections

What has impressed you most about the subject matter that you chose for your research/degree while at UCI?

I have always been impressed by how integrated circuit technologies developed over the years and how our everyday lives are now shaped by them. Producing silicon wafers—some of the purest materials ever made, from processed dusts and sand in large scales to enable applications such as facial recognition and autonomous driving—is still a kind of magic to me.

Alumni Life

What book or podcast would you suggest to someone who is just getting started with their graduate career at UCI? (Examples –Podcast: *Happier with Gretchen Rubin*; Book: *Who Moved my Cheese*)

The Power of Habit by Charles Duhigg. Graduate school can be a challenging road, and developing and maintaining good and healthy habits can be greatly helpful to students.

What advice would you give to a current graduate student as they look towards their future careers?

It is very helpful for graduate students to think ahead about what they really would like to do after graduation, so that they can take the right steps during school to achieve their goals.