

# Sahba Aghajani Pedram

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## EDUCATION

### UCLA

PH.D. CANDIDATE, MECHANICAL ENG.  
MAJOR: SYSTEMS & CONTROL  
Expected June 2020 | Los Angeles, CA  
Cum. GPA: 3.94 / 4.0

### UCLA

MS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  
MAJOR: SYSTEMS & CONTROL  
Grad. May 2018 | Los Angeles, CA  
Cum. GPA: 3.93 / 4.0

### UNIV. OF HAWAII AT MANOA

MS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  
MAJOR: ROBOTICS  
Grad. June 2016 | Honolulu, HI  
Cum. GPA: 4.0 / 4.0

### SHARIF UNIV. OF TECH.

BS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  
Grad. June 2012 | Tehran, Iran  
Major GPA: 3.8 / 4.0

## COURSEWORK

Matrix Analysis for Engineers (A+)  
Linear Systems (A)  
System Identification (A)  
Guidance, Navigation & Control (A)  
Linear Optimal Control (A+)  
Nonlinear Optimal Control (A)  
Stochastic Optimal Control (A)  
Stochastic Processes (A+)  
Stochastic Estimation (A+)  
Machine Learning (A)  
Neural Networks & Deep Learning (A)  
Robotics & Lab (A)  
Computational Robotics (A+)  
Control of Mobile Robots (A)  
Software Design for Robotics (A)  
Medical Robotics (A+)

## TECHNICAL REVIEWS

Reviewer for RA-L, ICRA, IROS.

## SKILLS

### PROGRAMMING

C/C++ • Python • Matlab

### SOFTWARE & PACKAGES

Keras • OpenCV • OpenGL • Kinect SDK  
• Qt • SolidWorks • SPSS • L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### INTUITIVE INC. | ROBOTICS SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INTERN

June 2019 – September 2019 | Sunnyvale, CA  
• Development of intelligent software algorithms for the da Vinci surgical robot.

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### UCLA BIONICS LAB | GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

September 2016 – Present | Los Angeles, CA  
• Intelligent algorithms for robotic automation of surgical subtasks.  
• Calibrated/Uncalibrated visual servoing, joint/cartesian space optimal path and trajectory planning.

### JHU COMPUTATION SENSING AND ROBOTICS LAB | VISITING GRADUATE RESEARCHER

June 2014 – August 2014 | Baltimore, MD  
• Large deflection shape sensing of medical snake robot using FBG sensors.

### HUMAN ROBOT INTERACTION LAB | GRAD. RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jan 2013 – May 2016 | Honolulu, HI  
• Haptic texture rendering and perception using magnetic levitation haptic interface.  
• Design, development, and control of a compact single-site robotic surgery system.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

**AUTONOMOUS TISSUE MANIPULATION VIA SURGICAL ROBOT USING LEARNING BASED MODEL PREDICTIVE CONTROL**  
2019, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA).

**AUTONOMOUS SUTURING VIA SURGICAL ROBOT: AN ALGORITHM FOR OPTIMAL SELECTION OF NEEDLE DIAMETER, SHAPE, AND PATH**  
2017, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA).

**TORQUE CONTRIBUTION TO HAPTIC RENDERING OF VIRTUAL TEXTURES**  
2017, IEEE Transactions on Haptics.

**LARGE DEFLECTION SHAPE SENSING OF A CONTINUUM MANIPULATOR FOR MINIMALLY-INVASIVE SURGERY**  
2015, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA).

## HONORS & AWARDS

2017	Best Poster Award	Southern California Robotic Symposium
2016	Best Poster Award	UCLA Industrial Advisory Board
2016	UCLA	Departmental Fellowship (Duration: 2 years)
2015	University of Hawaii	Everett E. Black Scholarship (Duration: 1 year)
2007	126/400,000	Iranian National wide University Entry Exam
2007	15/400,000	Iranian National Azad University Entry Exam
2006	1st/10,000	National wide Mathematical Concept Contest
2006	top 150/1000	Iranian National Mathematics Olympiad Semi-finalist
2005	top 150/1000	Iranian National Mathematics Olympiad Semi-finalist