### Ben Kazemi

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- Rapid prototyping
- Schematic capture and PCB design in Altium
- Firmware and software development
- CAD with Autodesk Inventor, confident with laser cutting and 3D printing
- Troubleshooting complex systems, expertise in bare-metal, digital electronics, physical design, and systems engineering
- Design for manufacture, management of outsourced manufacturing
- Lab management and organisation
- Hardware testing, characterisation, and validation

# Relevant work experience

2020-2023 Research Engineer - MSD Group at University College London, London

As the primary hardware developer for the "OpenMPD Particle Based Display," a research project which has spun-out into AcoustoFab, I assumed responsibility for all aspects of electronics design, mechanical CAD, assembly, fabrication, and testing. Additionally, I managed the distribution of over 100 boards internationally and oversaw the assembly process, which I outsourced. We partnered with UIST 2022 who utilised our OpenMPD platform and hardware for their student innovation contest.

I lead authored <u>"Two Gimbal PAT:</u> An artistic installation combining mechanical and acoustic rotation of levitated content" CHI 2022, and co-authored "Actively Reconfigurable Segmented Spatial Sound Modulators" Advanced Materials Technologies 2023.

I played a key role in managing the lab space, and supervised its growth by providing technical support to over 20 Post Doc researchers and PhD students addressing a wide range of technical requirements.

2018-2020 Research Technician - Interact Lab at University of Sussex, Brighton

I contributed towards the growth and management of a multi-disciplinary HCI lab focusing on cutting-edge research in <a href="holograms">holograms</a>, <a href="multimodal levitation">multimodal levitation</a>, <a href="wearable-technologies">wearable technologies</a>, <a href="programmable-liquid matter">programmable liquid matter</a>, <a href="metamaterials">metamaterials</a>, and <a href="metamaterials">adaptive shape changing screens</a>. <a href="My technical objectives">My technical objectives included facilitating the achievement of research and production goals by enabling lab members through rapid prototyping of electronic designs. Additionally, I developed cross-platform software using Python, C#, and Java to interface with hardware written in C.

I was responsible for the full lifecycle design of the revised levitation and Acoustophoretic board. The state-of-the-art board was designed in Altium and controlled by an FPGA, housing 256 uniquely controllable ultrasound speakers on two six-layer high-speed PCBs. This board has been integral to several published academic papers, including prestigious publications in Nature journal where my contribution was acknowledged in Appl. Phys. Lett. 115, 064101.

2015-2018 Developmental engineer - <u>Bitvu Ltd</u>, Brighton

I engineered a <u>a multi-channel</u>, <u>multi-protocol streaming encoder</u> that supports legacy analogue signals while also utilizing a novel design that reduced the cost by 80% compared to competing products. The initial contract involved interfacing an audio source to a Broadcom SoC and controlling an HDMI-to-CSI IC. As the primary project engineer, my responsibilities included designing and implementing the system architecture, creating schematics, and reviewing and supervising overseas PCB layout engineers. I collaborated with the Raspberry Pi foundation on a branch of their kernel driver to develop support for the Toshiba TC358743.

## Relevant technical skills

## Hardware

I possess professional experience in PCB design using Altium, with a focus on design for manufacturability (DfM) considerations. Additionally, I excel in assembly, playing a vital role in the production process. My expertise extends to various communication protocols, including Bluetooth, 802.11, RS232, USB, I2C, I2S, and HDMI. I am adept at troubleshooting hardware issues and possess proficiency in reverse engineering undocumented hardware. Notably, I have designed analogue audio systems, such as the development of a low-noise Raspberry Pi sound card 'Hat,' showcasing my ability to deliver high-quality solutions.

### **Software**

Proficient in: C, C#, and Java. Some experience with: Python, C++, and BASH. Studied: Haskell, Prolog, Pascal, MATLAB, LabView, SQL, VHDL, and MIPS.

Management I have successfully managed offshore engineers and outsourced manufacturers for large projects. I find these challenges rewarding and eagerly anticipate the opportunity to further develop my managerial skills.

## **Education and awards**

2011-2015

First class BEng with Honours in computer engineering, University of Sussex

- Designed and engineered a full-stack solution for a Galaxy S4 case that incorporated multi-touch pressure and positional input data using sensors on the sides and rear surfaces of the phone.
- Developed the PCB, firmware, and android app to showcase new modes of interaction with the device.
  - 2015 Rohde & Schwarz Project Prize Award
  - 2015 IET Gerald David Memorial prize Nominee
  - 2014 Best Engineering student awarded by Eurotherm by Schneider Electric

2007-2009

A-Levels in electronics, computing, and music technology - Sussex Downs College, Lewes

2005-2006

BTEC certificate in contemporary music - Brighton Institute of Modern Music, Brighton

# Other notable experiences

Emerging leaders – University College London, London. Awarded August 2022 Completed a comprehensive five-month leadership development course.

Learning to lead programme – University of Sussex, Brighton. Awarded June 2011

Language teacher – Shijie Chinese-English School, Hunan, China. August – September 2006 I created and delivered lesson plans and organized events to foster cross-cultural understanding among students aged 7 to 19.

# Personal interests and projects

- I developed an Android case enabling full OS control without touchscreen interaction, utilising BLE 4.0 or USB OTG.
- Noiseless four-layer line-in and microphone pre-amplifier sound card "HAT" for Raspberry Pi, using
- BLE MIDI foot pedal controller for the Yamaha THR30ii Guitar amp.
- Standalone BLE and USB Thinkpad keyboard and mouse open-source project engineering Bluetooth controller and case.
- Autonomous audio and power IO selector board with SPDIF DAC, controlled by IR/WiFi/BLE.
- A reactive baby light designed to gauge the child's state of calmness and aid sleep,
  - Android monitor and control application, with hardware and firmware interfaced through Bluetooth.
- Produced bespoke electronics for a themed escape room at Escape Kent in 2017.
- Contributed towards the open-source development of Adafruit's DRV2605 Haptic Controller Board.
- Co-authored Arduino workshops for SheCodes organization.
- Native English speaker with a competent spoken understanding of Farsi