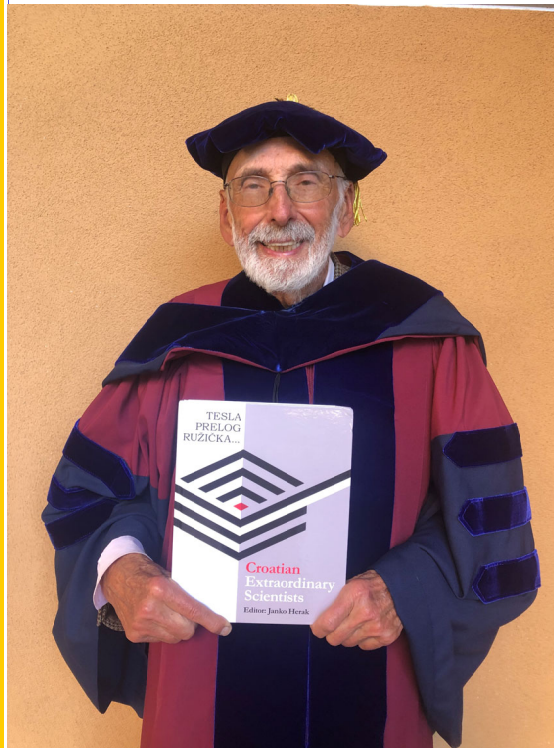




### Inside this Issue:

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## Gajski in Croatian Extraordinary Scientists



Professor Emeritus Daniel D. Gajski is listed in the book *Croatian Extraordinary Scientists*, edited by Janko Herak. The book lists Prof. Gajski among famous Croatian scientists such as Vladimir Prelog and Nikola Tesla. The chapter on Prof. Gajski details his educational journey from Croatia to the United States, his scholarly work, and his great impact on the scientific community.

Prof. Gajski was born in 1938 in the city of Nova Gradiška, later moving to Zagreb, where he completed primary and high school. As a high school student, Prof. Gajski competed in track and field, becoming the Croatian champion in 800m in 1958. From this experience, Prof. Gajski learned that oftentimes the winner

was decided at the last few moments of a race. He would apply this lesson to his scientific pursuits in the future.

Prof. Gajski attended the University of Zagreb, graduating in 1962 with a thesis on color television. He then worked on developing electronic telephone exchanges and received an MS degree in 1967 with a study on logic synthesis. Ultimately, Prof. Gajski received his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1974, with a thesis on formal languages and automata theory. He then joined Burroughs Co, building and patenting the Burroughs Scientific Processor (BSP) in a team in 1976. He was invited to lecture about the BSP at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, world famous for their Supercomputers, and later joined as a faculty member in 1977.

At Illinois, Prof. Gajski researched parallel processing, creating the Center for Supercomputer Research and Development with colleagues at the university. This research led him to focus on making tools for Computer Aided Design (CAD), which then led him to develop the world renowned Gajski's Y-chart, a chart that categorizes different design abstraction levels and styles of representation for each abstraction level. The Y-chart is used worldwide due to its simplicity and practicality. Prof. Gajski moved to UCI to expand on this CAD research and founded the Center for Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems.

### Chen Receives NSF CAREER Award



Assistant Professor Qi Alfred Chen is faculty in the Center for Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems (CECS) and in the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences. He had received the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) award from the National Science Foundation, an award given to early-career faculty who are emerging leaders in their department.

This award gives Prof. Chen funds for his proposal: “Securing the AI Stack in Autonomous CPS under Physical-Layer Attacks: A Systems Perspective.”

Prof. Chen’s project will ultimately contribute to the field of artificial intelligence (AI) by making AI safer to use in autonomous vehicles.

### Tseng Research Group Invents Digital Communication Fabric

Assistant Professor Peter Tseng, faculty in the Center for Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems (CECS), and his research group—including CECS Director Professor Fadi Kurdahi—invented a fabric that has the same functions as a smart device, such as making payments. The research group used near-field communication (NFC) technology to achieve this. Typically, NFC devices have a range to a few inches, but the Tseng Research Group extended it to more than four feet.



The invention can be expanded to hospitals, where mere fabric can track a patient’s health. The fabric also allows for more patient flexibility and comfort, since it replaces the need for particular devices the patient must wear with fabric. The project was supported by the National Science Foundation.

**CECS Seminar - Masahiro Fujita**

Professor Masahiro Fujita visited the Center for Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems at UCI on January 14, 2022. Prof. Fujita's talk was titled "Partial logic synthesis and its application to automatic generation of parallel/distributed algorithms."

Prof. Fujita received his PhD in Information Engineering from the University of Tokyo in 1985 on his work on model checking of hardware designs by using logic programming languages. In 1985, he joined Fujitsu as a researcher and started to work on hardware automatic synthesis as well as formal verification methods and tools including enhancements of BDD/SAT-based techniques. Since March 2000, he has been a professor at VLSI Design and Education

Center of the University of Tokyo.

**CECS Seminar - Liron David**

PhD candidate Liron David from Tel-Aviv University visited the Center for Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems at UCI on March 12, 2022. Liron's talk was titled "Poly-Logarithmic Side Channel Rank Estimation via Exponential Sampling."

Liron David is a PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering under the supervision of Prof. Avishai Wool. She received her B.Sc. Degree in Computer Science and Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Tel-Aviv University and her M.Sc. Degree in Electrical Engineering from Tel-Aviv University. Liron has won the Weinstein award for excellence in studies in 2017, the Weinstein best paper prize in 2018 and the Tel-Aviv University excellence in teaching in 2018.



# Student Profile

## Student Profile: Berken Utku Demirel

Berken Utku Demirel is a second-year MS/Ph.D. student with a focus in Computer Engineering at The Henry Samueli School of Engineering at UC Irvine. He received his bachelor's degree from Middle East Technical University (METU) Electrical - Electronics Engineering with high honors. He has achieved the 11th rank nationwide in the National University Entrance Examinations among 2 million students. During the fourth year of his Bachelor's program, he participated in the Undergraduate Student Academic Research Program (STAR), where he developed an algorithm to assess the quality of the ECG signals for wearable devices. At the end of this program, he was awarded the People's Choice and Publication prize in as a result of his conference paper published in IEEE.



The European Commission also awarded him with the Erasmus+ intern scholarship for summer research at Helmholtz Institute for Biomedical Engineering at RWTH Aachen University in Germany, where he has designed real-time software for heart-monitoring devices using ECG signals.

Currently, he is working under the guidance of Professor Mohammad Abdullah Al Faruque in the Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems Research Group at UCI. His current pursuit includes biomedical signal processing, machine learning, and their implementations in Health-IoT.

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